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THE TIMES

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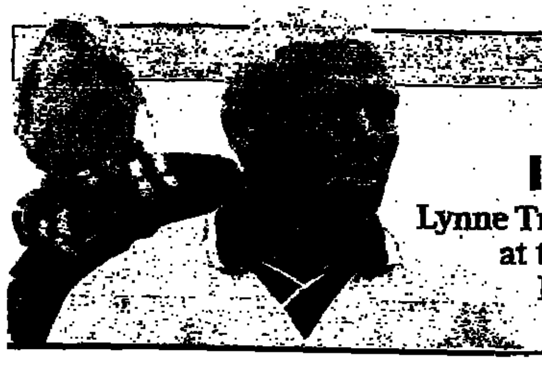

TODAY

GAZZA INACTION

Lynne Truss marvels at the laid-back Rangers star

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FAMILY TIES

Why cousins are back in fashion

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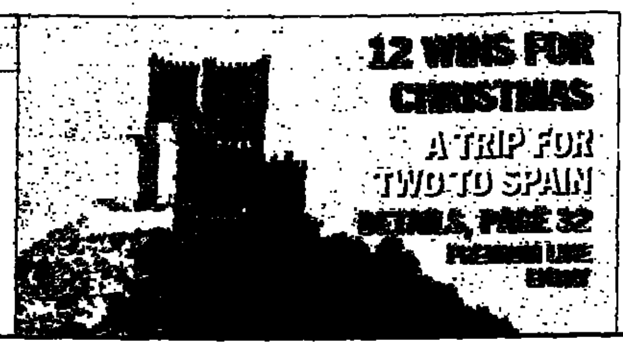


TOMORROW

THE DIRECTORY

Your three-week guide to television this Christmas

Prince dismisses entire architecture council to end feuding

"I gather he used to be on the Prince's architecture institute"

By Alan Hamilton
Marcus Binney
and Emma Wilkins

THE Prince of Wales yesterday dismissed the entire governing council of his Institute of Architecture.

The 14 council members, who include architects, engineers and public figures, were called to St James's Palace to be asked to resign. The Prince said the institute needed to take a new direction, and that it was time for the original council to go. Lord Morris of Castlemorris, the Labour peer who was the institute's chairman until yesterday, will remain as a member of the new steering group.

The institute, founded five years ago to promote the Prince's ideas, will be run for the time being by a committee of five drawn from the old council. Mass resignation by the board is the clearest possible signal that the institute's new director, the archaeologist Professor Richard Hodges from the University of East Anglia, wishes to put a firm end to the internal struggles and personality conflicts which have beset the institute over the past three years and which led to the previous director, Dr Richard John, being asked to move sideways only nine months after taking up the post.

Earlier this year the institute was refused academic approval and given two years to improve its academic standards. Without recognition from the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Architects' Registration Council of the United Kingdom, students who complete the two-year course will not be able to practise architecture in Europe.

According to reports, yesterday's meeting was entirely amicable, with the Prince praising the outgoing council for what they achieved, starting from no more than an idea, since the institute's foundation in 1992. He described the present moment in the body's fortunes as "the end of the beginning". The council agreed unanimously to stand down to make way for a smaller group, which will determine the institute's future direction. A new chairman will be announced this weekend, and a new full-sized council may be appointed at a future date.

A spokesman for the institute said last night that Professor Hodges wanted to make the institute more project-orientated. "It will be a policy of learning by doing. Students will be involved in practical projects ranging across every aspect of the built environment."

When the Prince began his architectural summer school, which evolved into the institute, it was seen as a champion of traditional values. But the passionate views of some staff and teachers, to whom modern architecture in all forms was anathema, combined with a belief that classicism was the only proper style, led to disputes not only with the rest of the profession but within the school itself. A visiting board of academics singled out history as one of the school's main weaknesses. Ironically, it was criticised on its foundation by the architectural establishment over fears that it would be too obsessed with classicism and history.

Students' work has been criticised by leading architects. In a letter to the *Architects' Journal*, Martin Richardson described their work as inept, crude and lifeless. "Their work is poorly drawn and desperately undistinguished, however becrested with the Prince of Wales' feathers," he wrote.

The three architect members of the council who have resigned are: Christopher Alexander, an American instrumental in setting up the school but who recently fell out with the Mary Rose Trust; Demetri Porphyrios, widely regarded as the best architect working in the classical tradition; and John Thomson, a champion of community architecture. The last two are expected to continue a close involvement with the institute.

Professor Hodges, the new director, was until recently the director of the British School in Rome, which colleagues say he rescued from a moribund state. Over the past three years he has been directing a major archaeological excavation at Butrint in Albania, which is said to be a new Pompeii, an undisturbed classical site of first-class importance.

Institute members, page 5

BBC excludes Blair in poll rigging row

By Andrew Pierce and Alexandra Frean

TONY BLAIR was disqualified by the BBC yesterday from the Radio 4 *Today* programme's personality of the year ballot after the discovery of a secret Labour Party attempt to try to rig the result.

The BBC closed written nominations for Mr Blair at midnight on Wednesday after the discovery of an "organised attempt" to distort the result in his favour.

The unprecedented action by the BBC, which was approved by Tony Hall, the BBC's head of news and current affairs, was a serious embarrassment to the party leadership.

A letter, from the little known Audience Participation Unit within the Labour Party campaign headquarters, was leaked to the BBC by the headquarters of the Unison trade union, which under Rodney Bickerstaffe has been an occasional thorn in Mr Blair's side.

The letter, sent to hundreds of Labour Party officials and trade unionists, asked members to find six people to write in and vote for Mr Blair to ensure he beat John Major in the prestigious competition.

The letter, from Jules Hurry, added: "Alternatively they can be faxed, though preferably not on fax machines which identify the sender as the Labour Party."

A BBC statement said: "We deeply deprecate any attempt to interfere with what is intended to be a spontaneous opportunity for the programme's listeners to express their point of view."

The Tories swiftly exploited news of the ban on Mr Blair. John Major said last night: "This is very sad. It is sad for Mr Blair that his staff engaged in mass manipulation of public opinion in an attempt to get a phoney result." In a damage-limitation exercise the Labour Party leadership disowned the fax from Ms Hurry, who joined the payroll earlier this year. Tom Sawyer, general secretary of the Labour Party, said: "The BBC are making a huge fuss about not very much.

"The truth is that an individual at party headquarters did this on their own initiative, and had we known it was being conducted, it would not have been sanctioned, and it wasn't."

However, there was little prospect of Ms Hurry being disciplined, according to party sources last night. She was absent from her desk throughout yesterday.

Mr Blair suffered a double embarrassment as the clumsy intervention from the Labour Party headquartrers failed to achieve its objective and, for the second year running, he was unable to make the last six nominations. The letter of December 9 also said that it was vital to avoid a "repeat of last year when John Major won". He did not. It was a posthumous award to Philip Lawrence, the murdered headmaster.

The affair has shed light for the first time on the existence of the Audience Participation Unit which was set up earlier this year. Ms Hurry, part of a team of four, is paid to try to ensure that Labour Party activists take part in phone-ins on radio and television. They also make them aware of how to obtain tickets to be part of television studio audience discussion programmes. They do not make public their party membership.

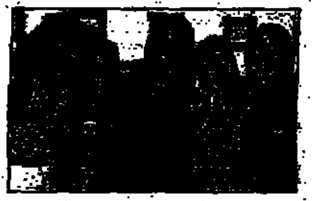
The unit is part of the network of Peter Mandelson, the head of Labour's campaign unit. Mr Mandelson, the MP for Hartlepool, is a close aide of Tony Blair. He is believed to be one of the "dark forces" around the Labour leader who were attacked by Clare Short earlier this year.

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party chairman, said last night: "The Labour Party has been caught red-handed trying to cheat. This is proof positive that new Labour will cheat in any circumstance and break any rule in their lust for power. Even with their rigging, Mr Blair did not qualify in the top six candidates."

Tony Blair, who was in Dublin for a meeting of European socialist parties, attempted to make light of the incident. "I know nothing about this at all, but I think things are better done in the proper way," he said. "It is not something I would sanction. As soon as we were aware it was being done it was stopped."

The attempt at vote-rigging was discovered yesterday morning after a copy of Ms Hurry's letter was faxed to the *Today* studios. Jon Barton, the editor, consulted with colleagues on the programme and decided to discount any votes received after midnight on Wednesday.

Previous winners are Terry Waite (1986), the Beirut hostage, Gordon Wilson, the Enniskillen bomb hero (1987), Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet President (1988 and 1989), and Michael Heseltine (1990).



Why The Spice Girls have a taste for Tory politics........Page 3

Paul Thomas: died in fume-filled car after saying to friends: "I can't cope"

Parents get drugs alert after pupil suicides

By David Charter
Education Correspondent

TWO A-level students may have committed suicide after being drawn into the drugs underworld, the principal of their college warned parents yesterday. One boy had told classmates at Sir John Deane's College in Northwich, Cheshire, that he was in debt to a dealer.

Jack Tasker, head of the sixth-form college, which came fourth in the national A-level table this summer, feared their deaths were drugs-related, and he warned parents in a letter that pushers were targeting their teenage children.

James Pearson, 16, from Chester, apparently committed suicide by jumping off a multi-storey car park near Blackpool's Golden Mile last month. James, a "brilliant student" with ten grade-A GCSEs, had confessed to classmates he owed money to drug dealers.

A second student who used drugs took his life at the weekend. Paul Thomas, 18, from Middlewich, died in a fume-filled car in Crewe on Saturday having left the 1,070-student college a month ago, telling friends: "I can't cope."

James Pearson: owed money for drugs

Both deaths are being investigated by police and inquests will be held in the new year.

Mr Tasker told parents: "It is likely that drugs are widely available in the local community and the main target group for drug dealers will be the 16-19 age group".

Sir John Deane's, praised by inspectors for its "well-deserved reputation for academic excellence," is a popular choice for students in the Northwest.

However, it has waged a long battle against drug pushers. Staff called in police three years ago in a raid that led to

Continued on page 2, col 7

Bonn refuses to back down in pre-summit row

By Charles Bremner and Philip Webster in Dublin

GERMANY stood firm last night against heavy pressure from its European Union partners over the rules of monetary union as finance ministers struggled to stop the quarrel overshadowing today's European summit in Dublin and casting new doubts on the prospects for the single currency.

In a dispute that pits Bonn against Paris and goes to the heart of the monetary project, the finance ministers were locked in negotiation to try to bridge the gap between Bonn's demands for tough automatic penalties for high-spending members of the future currency and the wishes of the rest of Europe to leave room for political judgement.

While Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and other leaders voiced some optimism about a settlement on the so-called stability pact, EU officials were preparing for a possible deadlock that would go to their bosses, the heads of government, to solve at the full summit. Ruairi Quinn, the Irish Finance Minister, said as talks began in Dublin Castle last night that there was no sign of an imminent deal. "I have no prior indication that we can anticipate a breakthrough," he said.

Last night, John Major arrived in Dublin for the summit, his last before the general election, making plain that he would block attempts by the French and Germans to beef up the proposed new treaty on Europe's future.

The Prime Minister let it be known that if necessary he would veto a move by the French to include in the draft drawn up by the Irish EU presidency proposals to extend majority voting to a wider range of areas including immigration, justice, home affairs and foreign policy.

President Chirac would be backed by Herr Kohl in such an enterprise, but it was clear

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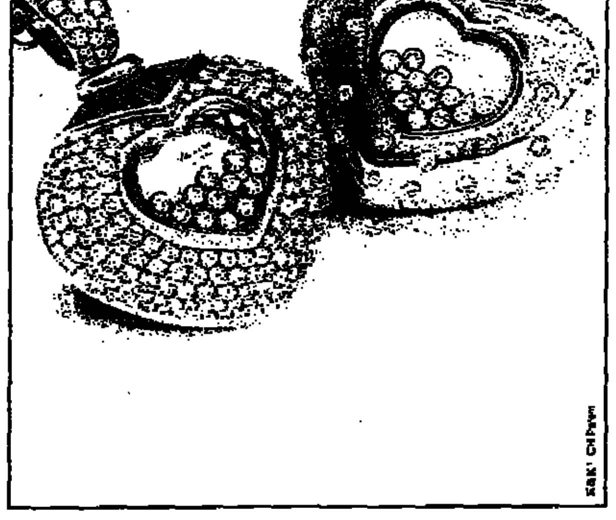

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Millennium exhibition to go ahead

The Millennium Commission announced last night that the planned exhibition under a giant dome at Greenwich would take place. But the commission admitted that no deal had been reached on the funding of the project.

The commissioners, who include Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, issued the statement after a second day of emergency meetings ....Page 5

Britain faces return of floating jail

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

PRISON officials are planning to ship a former floating jail from the US and moor it in the Thames Estuary or Portland Harbour in Dorset to ease the accommodation crisis facing the service.

Two prison officials will this weekend visit the floating prison, *Resolution*, on the Hudson River near New York. Under the plan, it would hold 500 Category C offenders.

The "last resort" option is being considered because the Prison Service fears it will not get planning permission to convert a former RAF base at Finningley in south Yorkshire into a jail. Without more accommodation, the service faces being unable to accept new prisoners sometime between February and April.

The *Resolution* would be shipped aboard a huge barge and could accept its first inmates by February.

A Prison Service source said: "It appears to meet our requirements and would allow us to carry out a full range of activities. It has on it sporting facilities allowing prisoners to exercise and a full range of workshops."

The *Resolution*, formerly owned by the Bibby Line, provided dormitory accommodation for soldiers after the Falklands conflict but was converted into a prison ship in 1989. It was used by the New York City Department of Corrections to hold medium-security prisoners until 1994.

In addition to inspecting the *Resolution*, the Prison Service is looking at other disused military bases.

Last week the prison population rose by 41 to a record 58,516 after a period when increases had been running at about 250 a week.

Stephen Shaw, director of the Prison Reform Trust, said: "It shows what a desperate state we are in that the Prison Service is considering the introduction of prison hulks."

History of the hulks, page 2

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House sees MP exercised by demon of the D-word

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

The forbidden exerts a fatal fascination. "Don't mention the war" was exactly what Basil Fawlty found himself unable to avoid doing when German guests arrived at Fawlty Towers. He was drawn like a moth to the flame.

Which of us has not experienced this? The subject we know to be taboo leaps from behind the bushes of our thoughts, hissing "mention me!" at precisely the worst moment. The ugly scar we know we must not stare at when we meet our niece peeks over her lace blouse scowling "look at me!" until, drawn by some irresistible force, our eyes dive for her neck.

And the word we've been told is the one word to avoid over tea with the vicar insinuates itself into our mind, softly cooing "*say* me!" as we proffer the cake and lurch towards the sentence "do tuck in, Father". Somewhere in the unconscious mind, Nemesis calls, siren-like, from the rocks.

Yesterday Nemesis called Harry Greenway.

The elements of his small tragedy began as unrelated events. At about the time that Mr Greenway (C. Ealing N) was discovering, to his joy, that his question to the PM was first on the list for yesterday, the Commons Standards and Privileges Committee was agonising over a word to use in place of "lie" to describe the evidence of the former whip David Willetts. They decided on "dissemble".

On Wednesday night, at about the time that gleeful broadcasters were defining (for that section of the public that supposed "dissemble" was the opposite of what you do with a model aeroplane kit) the exact meaning of the newly fashionable word, Mr Greenway was pondering what to ask Mr Major. He decided to ask about the need to protect the British veto in Europe.

Yesterday morning, at about the time that Peter Mandelson was tugging the sleeves of Labour backbenchers with his wheeze for the day — "use the word 'dissemble' in your questions to the Prime Minister" — Mr Greenway was making a mental note: "Avoid the word 'dissemble' in my question to the Prime Minister."

In Tony Blair's absence, John Prescott was to question Mr Major. At 3.15 in the afternoon, Prescott checked his script. The phrase was "Why carry on dissembling?" John Hutton (Lab, Barrow and Furness) rehearsed his own phrase: "Has dissembling become a way of life?" A score of Labour MPs reviewed their own plans to ask about dissembling.

Harry Greenway was rising to his feet. All he had to do was ask about the British veto without using the word "dissemble". Not difficult, surely? We are hardly looking at a new-boy. Mr Greenway, who is 62, has been an MP for 17 years. An assiduous attender, this former headmaster's command of the English language is complete.

"Mr Harry Greenway!" Madam Speaker called.

"Will my Right Honourable Friend confirm," he asked, "that in the run-up to the Dublin summit he will not abandon the British veto?"

So far, so good. But something caused him to take a second bite . . .

"Will he assure the House that he will never abandon. or . . ."

He hesitated. He wanted a word for "dismantle" or "pick apart". Greenway's normally expressive features locked, as though momentarily gripped by some malevolent internal power. I thought I saw him quiver.

". . . *dissemble* that veto?"

Like an innocent possessed by dark forces, Mr Greenway looked dazed and surprised by the uproar which engulfed him. The demon of Fawlty Tory Towers had struck again.

Help promised for lorry drivers

EU ministers end limits on damages for air crashes

By Staff Reporters

Goschen: deplored blockades on Continent

AIRLINES will be liable for unlimited damages for accidents in which passengers are killed or injured, under rules agreed in Brussels last night.

European Union transport ministers agreed to end the much-criticised system of fixed ceilings on payments set up under the 1929 Warsaw Convention.

The new agreement, which will apply to all European Union airlines, means that passengers or their families will be entitled to open-ended damages in accidents for which airlines are responsible and to payments of £80,000 for accidents even when the airline is not to blame; and that families of passengers who die in an air accident will be entitled to receive the first £40,000 within ten days.

The Warsaw Convention set a limit of about £10,000 on claims, although most countries have raised the level. In America the ceiling is £50,000, while many European airlines have opted for almost £100,000.

Last month, five European airlines, KLM, SAS, Swissair, Austrian Airlines and Finnair agreed to abolish limits, joining Japanese airlines which ended them in 1992.

The agreement must now be passed by the European Parliament before coming back to European transport ministers for final approval.

The transport minister, Viscount Goschen, won commitments when he pressed fellow ministers for action to help British lorry drivers hit by blockades by striking drivers in France and Greece. He said that his French counterpart, Anne-Marie Idrac, had promised to deal with compensation claims rapidly, while the Greek transport minister, Haris Kastanidis, had promised to do all in his power to help free British drivers who have been trapped for almost two weeks.

Lord Goschen told the French minister that some small British firms had suffered badly from the lorry drivers' strike and should be given special attention, with interim payments if necessary. "Central government must ensure that there are no delays and be ready to deal with the concerns of the United Kingdom," he said.

He added: "We deplore the blockades of key roads by farmers in Greece. It is unacceptable that innocent parties are suffering because of this national disagreement between farmers and the Greek Government.

"I have urged the Greek minister to do everything possible to secure the release of foreign vehicles that are still trapped in Greece.

"We shall of course be supporting any claims submitted by British hauliers and have asked Greece what arrangements they will put in place for handling such claims," the minister said.

Bonn refuses to back down

Continued from page 1

last night that the Prime Minister had decided to make the defence of the national veto the centrepiece of what could be his last summit battle if he hands over to Tony Blair after the election next year.

As the finance ministers' talks progressed last night, officials said that there seemed hope for a broad accord "in principle" on a stability pact. That would leave open some details for future negotiation, but would allow for a smoother summit today and tomorrow in which the leaders could claim that a further step had been taken along the road to European economic and monetary union.

Failure to reach agreement would cast a shadow over today's summit, where, among other things, Europe is to be given its first sight of the new euro banknotes that are to replace national currencies.

A full-blown quarrel over what other states see as German bullying would also distract attention from the meeting's main aim: giving a shove to the new-model Maastricht treaty, which has been sketched out by Ireland and must be finished by the Dutch presidency in Amsterdam next June. Herr Kohl's and President Chirac's effort to present a common push for a frontier-free EU and more majority voting would ring hollow against the background of a continuing quarrel in Europe's core partnership.

The British star in Dublin yesterday for some EU leaders, however, was Mr Blair, who was given near royal treatment by left-wing leaders at their traditional pre-summit gathering.

Kohl fuels fears, page 12
John Redwood and Hervé de Charette, page 18
Leading article and Letters, page 19

A scene from *Great Expectations*, the film of the Dickens novel that featured the evil of the hulks and transportation. Pip (John Mills) is visiting the fatally injured Magwitch (Finlay Currie), who had defied transportation

Shameful legacy of hulks that housed the peasantry and offended Dickens

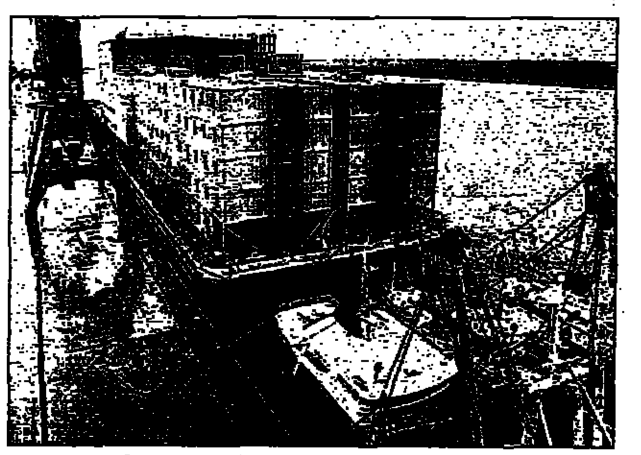
By Tim Jones

THE prospect of a floating jail moored off the coast harks back to the days long before Charles Dickens smelt their stench and campaigned against them. Prison ships had always offended reformers who were appalled by the inhumanity they represented.

The "hulks" were introduced in great numbers in 1775 when the War of Independence meant that America could no longer be used as a dumping ground for thousands of destitute peasants and petty thieves. With not enough prisons in the land to accommodate them, old ships of the line were converted and their inmates forced to work dredging the Thames and other maritime rivers.

Hulks became a common sight during the Napoleonic wars. *HMS Bellerophon*, on which Napoleon surrendered after the battle of Waterloo, became a prison ship in the Medway until 1825. During the war, French prisoners held on hulks were marched 16 miles from Plymouth and forced to build themselves a better prison, Dartmoor.

If conditions in prisons such as Newgate were awful, life in the hulks was hellish. Men, women and children as young as seven were crammed inside them in stinking holds which compared with the worst of the slave trade ships. They were leaky, like furnaces in summer, freezing in winter and a hotbed of riot and insubordination. The prisoners who festered beneath their decks were controlled by bored and sadistic officers. The hulks were also a magnet to every form of disease and sickness, and death was rampant.



Resolution, the former American prison ship which may be pressed into service in Britain

In spite of increasing calls by Dickens and others to abolish them, the last of the hulks were not abandoned until 1857. Since then, in less brutal form, prison ships have been used when shore jails have become overcrowded. One of them, the *Maidstone*, moored in Belfast Loch in the early 1970's to hold suspected IRA activists and is now part of republican folk lore. Seven prisoners on the ship embarrassed their guards by escaping and swimming ashore after noting how a seal managed to breach security nets that were supposed to be impenetrable.

Dickens mentioned the evil of the hulks and the misery endured on transportation ships in *Great Expectations*. He also raged against them in public speeches and letters. To him, the hulks were almost as wicked as public hangings, against which he campaigned in letters to *The Times*.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ministers set up E. coli committee

A special Cabinet committee has been set up to respond to the outbreak of food poisoning that has claimed 11 lives in Scotland, Downing Street announced. The committee, chaired by Tony Newton, the Lord President, met last night. It aims to act speedily to implement policy changes after two inquiries into the *E. coli* outbreak in Lanarkshire. Other committee members include Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary and Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister.

Police powers

The High Court has reserved judgment in a test case to decide whether the police are legally entitled to ban peaceful demonstrations on the highway under the terms of the 1994 Criminal Justice Act, which brought in a new criminal offence of "trespassory assembly".

Pensioners' rise

Pensioners' average income has risen by 60 per cent in real terms since the Tories came to power, according to the Department of Social Security. The proportion of pensioners receiving income from occupational schemes also rose, from 43 per cent to 63 per cent, in the same period.

Duke's appeal

THE Duke of Edinburgh, who is president of the World Wide Fund for Nature, has written to more than 50 heads of government urging them to protect at least 10 per cent of their country's forests from logging and mining. Half of the world's woodlands have been cleared.

QE2 shipshape

The *QE2* left Southampton for a three-day sea trial yesterday after competing a £12 million refit. Cunard said that there was "absolutely no danger" of a repeat of the 1994 fiasco when the ship sailed across the Atlantic with work still under way.

Terrorist trap

Terrorists tried to lure police and troops in Belfast to a mortar bomb containing 900 grammes of Semtex the RUC said. Officers uncovered the mortar in a bin as they responded to a hoax bomb warning at a church on Thursday night. **Blair visit, page 7**

Healthy rivers

More than a quarter of rivers and canals in England and Wales have become less polluted since 1991, the Environment Agency said. Studies of insects indicate that about a third of waterways are healthy and another third are in reasonable shape.

'Lifer' walks free

Thomas Campbell, serving life for the murder of six people in Glasgow's notorious "ice-cream wars" in 1984, walked free on his son's twelfth birthday yesterday after a 30-minute hearing in Edinburgh, pending a new appeal against his conviction.

Fiennes in Chile

Sir Ranulph Fiennes, 52, was in hospital in Chile yesterday after failing to become the first man to walk solo across Antarctica. He will undergo surgery for kidney stones. The explorer was airlifted from the icy wastes, 450 miles from the starting point of his trek.

300,000 at No 10

The Internet site for 10 Downing Street attracted 300,000 viewers on its opening day. Web visitors arrive at the familiar black doorway to the Prime Minister's official London residence and are then taken on a tour of the State Rooms.

Suicides

Continued from page 1

several students being expelled and a number of dealers were prosecuted.

Lynn Thomas, mother of Paul, said that she found out he was involved with drugs only after his death. She said he might still have been upset over the death of his father, Eric, two years ago.

Mrs Thomas added: "Paul seemed quite happy on Friday when he went out with his friends. He was his usual self.

"There was no note found on him and it was totally unexpected. It was only after, having spoken to the school, that I realised he may have been involved with drugs. His friends have said he was taking them."

She said that he left the college three weeks ago because he fell behind with his work. "He was a very loving son and I idolised him. I don't know how I will cope without him. There is going to be a full inquiry into his death, which will hopefully give us some answers."

A classmate of James Pearson said the dead boy confided in him that he owed money to drug dealers.

Janet McNicholl, James' mother, said: "He was a brilliant student and I can think of no reason for this happening. He was a very sensible, affectionate child and very supportive."

Inspector Kevin Lunn, of Northwich police, said drug dealers used colleges as a "hunting ground" because pupils were "away from immediate parental control".

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'We are true Thatcherites. She was the first Spice Girl, the pioneer of girl power'

Pierced-nose pop group adds spice to Tories

By Damian Whitworth and Carol Midgley

THE Spice Girls, the provocative all-girl pop band, have pulled off their most daring stunt yet. Breaking with the traditions of the music world, the queens of the bare midriff and pierced nostril have announced they are backing the Conservative Party.

The pouting, all-female pop group chose to voice their views in an interview with *The Spectator*, the bible of the right-wing intellectual Establishment. Not for them sleepless nights over record sales and hotpants, they claim; the most worrying issue for the Spice Girls is, it seems, "the slide to a single currency".

And they have a genuine right-wing heroine to prove it. "We Spice Girls are true Thatcherites. Thatcher was the first Spice Girl, the pioneer of our ideology — Girl Power," said Titian-haired Geri, a 24-year-old with an uncompromising Eurosceptic outlook of which the Lady herself would be proud.

"We travel throughout Europe. All those countries look the same. Only England looks different. That is why the Spice Girls are profoundly suspicious of Europe." Victoria added portentously that the proposed European Monetary Union was a "terrible trick on the British people".

Baroness Thatcher's office said that she had not seen the piece but she would be "thrilled". At Conservative Central Office, however, where pop stars are rarely seen, there was less restrained excitement. "They obviously have very clear political views. They are a go-ahead group and we are a go-ahead party."

The band also spoke opf a desire to be Number One in the soon-to-be-vacant Kensington and Chelsea seat. "I am considering whether to throw my spice into the ring and stand," said Geri. "If the people want me, I could not refuse. I'd be like Glenda Jackson, but better." With the band's single *Wanna Be* currently top of the charts in 28 countries and their new single *2 Become 1* a contender for the top Christmas slot here, popularity should not be problem. The upper class vote should be cornered. Mel B, who sports a pierced tongue, told the magazine: "We shouldn't be prejudiced against any background, poor or aristocratic. The middle class are the worst. We like the aristocrats," an ideology that may startle Joan O'Neill, mother of group member Mel C. Mrs O'Neill is an officer with Labour-run Knowsley Borough Council. However, John Major should be wary of using the band as an election weapon. "The good thing about Major is that because he has not got a personality he's not hiding behind some smooth facade. He can't rely on his looks, can he?" said Victoria. The Labour leader was more personally appealing but was roasted over policy. "We met Tony Blair and he seemed nice enough. His hair's all right, but we don't agree with his tax policies. He's just not a safe pair of hands for the economy."

And the pop stars are not sure about a man who has never done any proper work. "But the real problem with Blair is that he's never had a real job. In the olden days a politician could be a coalminer who came to power with ideals. Not Blair. He's just a good marketing man," said Geri.

Neither did Sir Edward Heath escape. "If Ted Heath was the man in power who tricked the English into voting for a Federal Europe when they did not mean to, then that is bad," said Victoria.

The Thatcherite wing of the Conservative Party has never been the natural home of the nation's pop stars. While Oasis and Blur have been eagerly waving the flag for Tony Blair (the former lead singer of rock band Ugly Rumours, no less) musical youth in the Tory party has been thin on the ground.

There has been talk that Gary Barlow, the least-fancied member of the now disbanded teenybopper band Take That, has Right leanings. But on the whole the Tory Party garners its support from among the ranks of more mature rockers.

Phil Collins, whose music if not outwardly Conservative, is certainly conservative, said before the last election that he would go abroad if Labour got in and raised taxes, sentiments that were echoed by Andrew Lloyd Webber. The one-time Rolling Stone Bill Wyman and Sir Cliff Richard are believed to be quietly Conservative.

The most ready to actively support the Tory party is the soul singer Patti Boulaye who, with the comedian Jim Davidson, was the showbusiness presence at this year's party conference. Cilla Black is still understood to be true blue but another past supporter, Lynsey de Paul, said recently she couldn't vote Conservative now.

Gary Numan, who sang like a robot, said that bands which supported Labour ripped off their audiences because they were so determined to demonstrate that they were proletarian that they put on shoddy stage shows.

Before the 1979 election Paul Weller of The Jam declared "This 'change the world' thing is getting too trendy. I'm going to vote Conservative." But he subsequently spent much of the 1980s playing for Red Wedge, Labour's brigade of touring pop bands.

FRANCESCO SERRENTI

Political harmony: Mel B, Victoria, Mel C, Emma and Geri are strongly against European Monetary Union and the surrender of British sovereignty

Pop review of year, page 32

Year's probation for wife who killed Falklands hero

By A Staff Reporter

A WOMAN who stabbed to death her husband — a sergeant-major decorated during the Falklands War — was released to serve a year's probation after a court martial in Germany last night.

"He was calling me names and I saw a knife on the side so I stabbed him," Angela Fenty, from Cleethorpes, North East Lincolnshire, said in a recorded statement played to the court at Hohne near Hannover.

Fenty, 24, said her mind "went blank" when her husband, his face only two inches away from hers in the kitchen of their married quarters in Hohne, shouted abuse at her. Peter Fenty, 35, a warrant officer in the Royal Engineers, received an 8in stab wound in the stomach and died in the ambulance on the way to hospital.

Fenty pleaded guilty to manslaughter with diminished responsibility. She said she was suffering from premenstrual tension and was depressed because her husband was having an affair. She has already served one year in an army detention centre at Colchester.

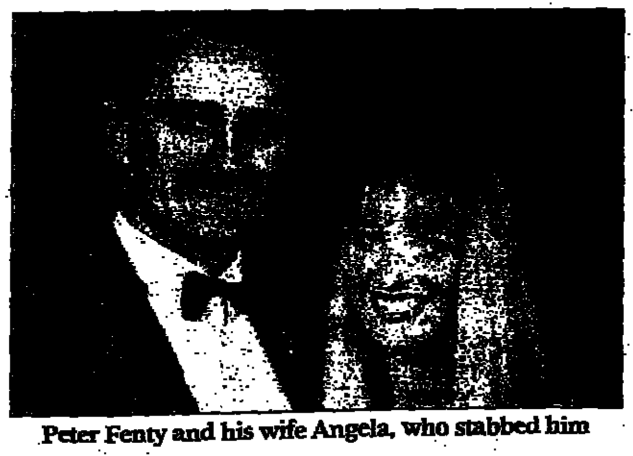
Sergeant Major Fenty, also from Cleethorpes, joined the Army at 16. He had a distinguished service record, notably in the Falklands, where he fought at the battle for Mount Tumbledown. He also served in the Gulf War.

The court was told that he was having an affair with a Danish woman called Barbara who lived above his local squash court in Germany. His wife said in the recorded interview: "He called me fat, frumpy and boring with no self-confidence. He told me he had more in common with Barbara because she was 44 with children and going through her second divorce." She claimed that her husband, who had been married before and had two children, once threw her across a room by the scruff of her neck and slammed her head into a coffee machine. On the night of the stabbing it was alleged that Fenty had had sex with a soldier whom she had known for about a month.

The Fentys married in 1991 when she was 19. Her parents did not approve and did not attend the wedding. A condition of Fenty's probation is that she returns to Britain to live with her parents in Cleethorpes.

Her mother Joyce, 56, said last night: "She can just come back home now and we will help her to pick up the pieces of her life."

The case came under the Army's jurisdiction because the killing took place in a military dwelling.



Peter Fenty and his wife Angela, who stabbed him

Leah friend 'confessed out of fear'

By Michael Horsnell

A SCHOOL friend of Leah Betts yesterday denied supplying the Ecstasy tablet that killed her and claimed that a confession had been made through fear of the bouncer at the nightclub where the drug was obtained.

Steven Packman told a jury at Norwich Crown Court that a threat had been relayed to him through friends that Bernie O'Mahoney, head doorman at Raquel's in Basildon, Essex, would break his legs and burn down his house if the 18-year-old student implicated him.

To pacify him, Mr Packman said he had arranged a meeting outside a petrol station three days after Miss Betts had slipped into a coma at her 18th birthday party in November last year. She had taken one of four tablets obtained through a chain of old schoolfriends.

The conversation, in which an alleged drugs dealer was named as the actual supplier, was secretly recorded, with Mr O'Mahoney's co-operation, by the *News of the World*, which handed the tape to police.

Mr Packman, 18, from Laindon, Essex, denies being involved in the supply of the class A drug to Miss Betts and her friend Sarah Cargill.

The trial continues today.

Church bids for execution papers

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE Church of England is expected to be the leading bidder for a rare collection of church and state documents, including the warrant for the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots, when they come up for auction on Monday.

The Church was last night still waiting to hear whether an application for funding to help it to acquire the £100,000 collection at Sotheby's had been successful. It is particularly keen to secure the 16th century Fairhurst Papers, which will almost complete an irreplacable collection.

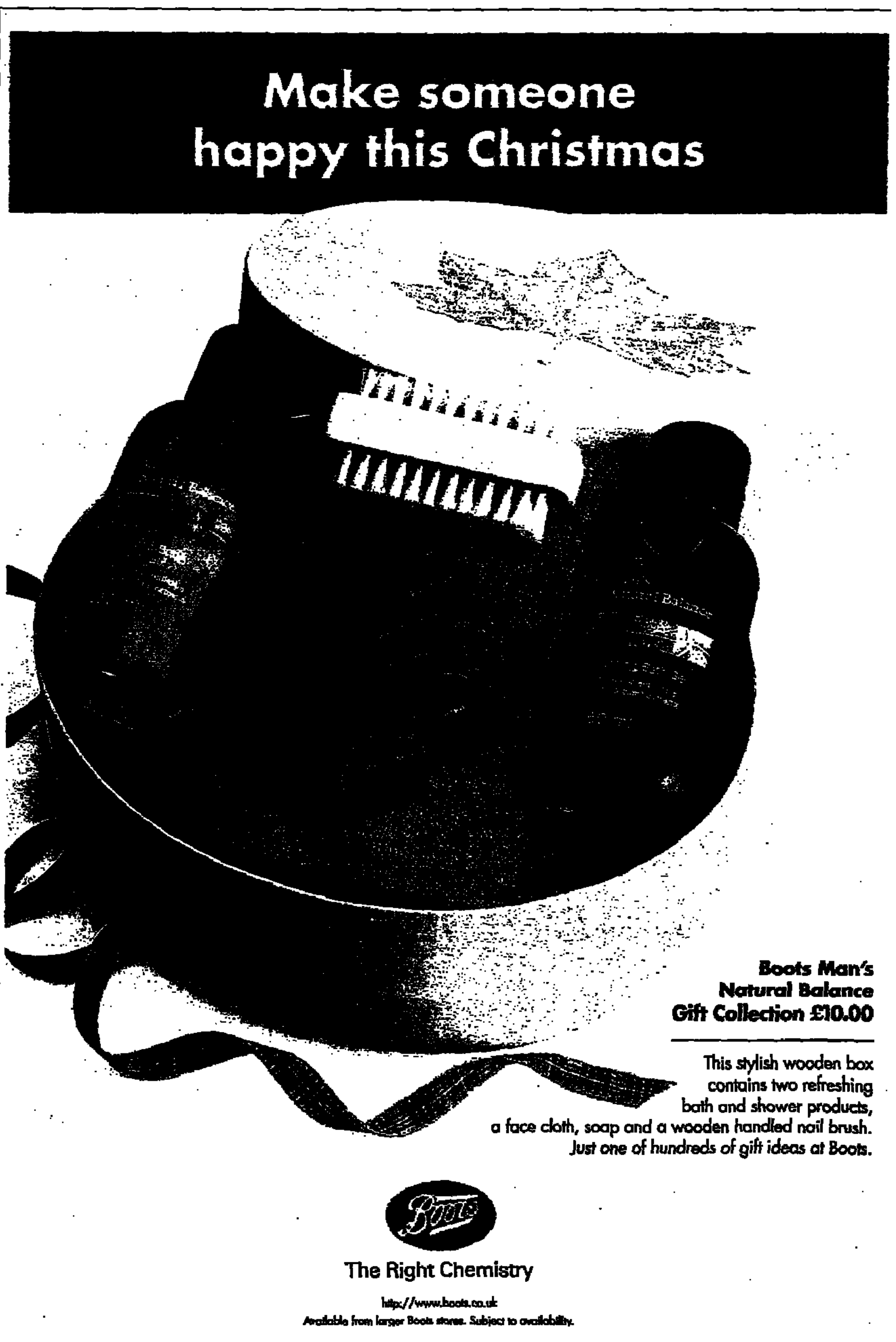
They were last seen 50 years ago, when Sotheby's sold them to a man who walked in off the street and paid £230 for the warrant and between £30 and £40 each for six other documents.

As well as documents relating to Mary's execution, a turning point in British history that led to the attempted invasion by the Spanish Armada, the papers include a letter dated 1589 from the Privy Council to the Archbishop of Canterbury, proposing that all comedies and tragedies should be censored by a committee before being performed in public.

They include a distressing memorandum describing Mary's execution itself, at Fotheringay on February 8, 1587, which was possibly part of the Earl of Kent's documentation. The memo, in "secretary hand", describes how "... then laye she downe verye quietlye stretchinge out her bodye, & layinge her necke over the blocke, cryed, *In manus tuas domine*. One of her executioners held downe her hande, the other did with two strokes of an axe cut of her head, whiche fallinge of her attire appeared verye graye & near powled [bald]."

The papers are part of a collection once owned by John Selden, a 17th century lawyer and politician. Some of the documents were spirited away by Selden from Lambeth Palace, the London home of the Archbishop of Canterbury, when Archbishop William Laud was led to the Tower in 1641, to be executed in 1645.

Lambeth Palace library, the principal library for the history of the Church, wants the documents "in the interest of the national heritage". They would be available for widespread scrutiny for the first time and would add the final touches to the 66 volumes of Fairhurst Papers already in the library's possession.



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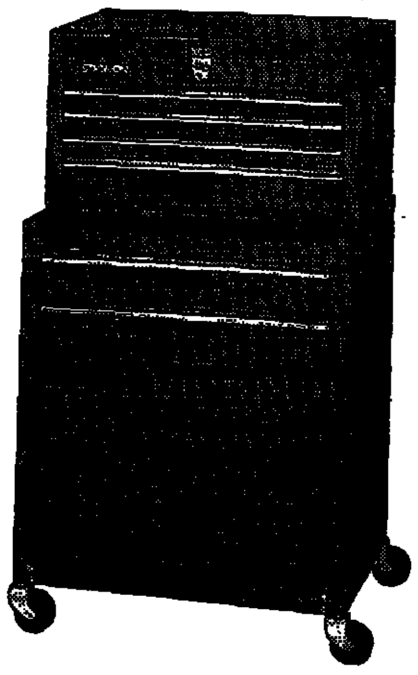

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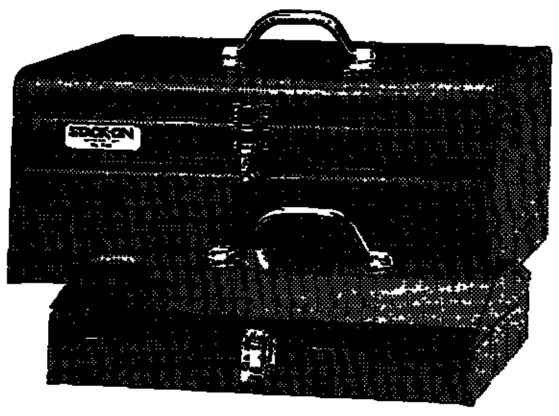

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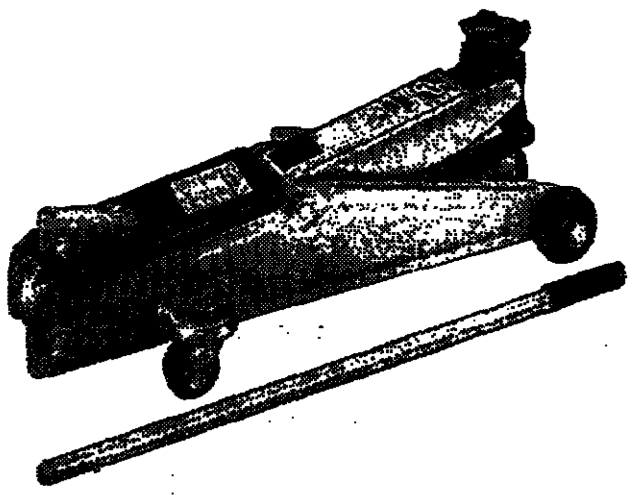

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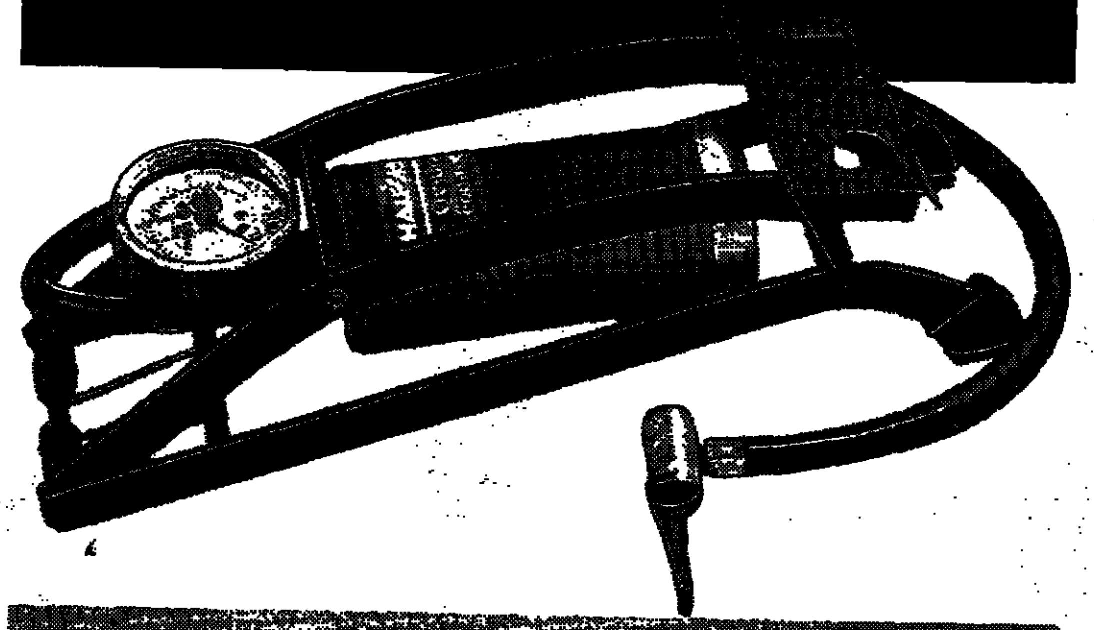

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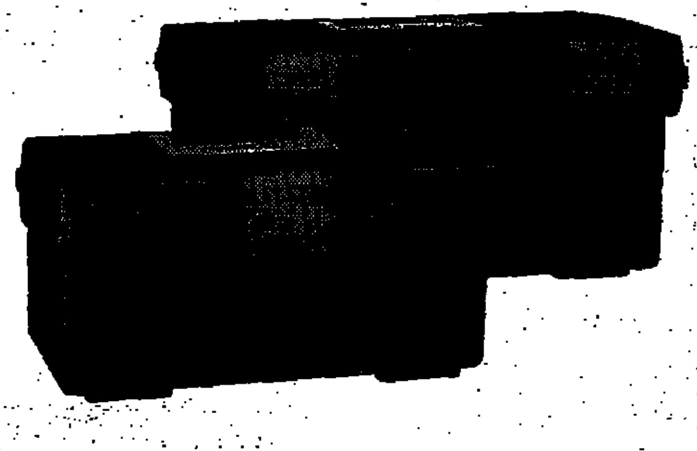

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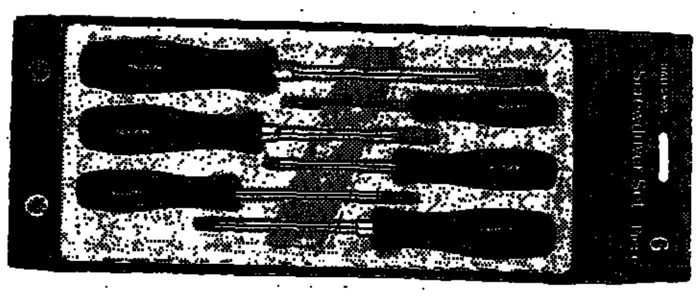

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Millennium Dome given go-ahead but no deal on funding

By Damian Whitworth

THE Millennium Commission announced last night that the Millennium Exhibition under a giant dome at Greenwich would take place. But the brief statement issued by the commission admitted that no deal had been reached on the funding of the project, leaving all those involved in the scheme in confusion.

The commissioners, who include Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, issued the statement after a second day of emergency meetings during which they considered the business plan for the £700 million project.

The commision is deciding whether to give £200 million of lottery money for the dome to be built. Commissioners were impressed by the designs for the exhibition but concerned about the cost, which has been rising steadily.

Straw and Bottomley: letter of concern

Commission sources said the statement was made because of the welter of stories questioning the future of the project. But the terse statement said no deal had yet been agreed. "The commission is now finalising the means by which the exhibition will be delivered within an acceptable budget," it said.

The sticking point has been over whether the government will guarantee borrowings. The Government wants to reassure private investors, who must provide £150 million of the total cost, by extending the life of the Millennium Commission and so have lottery cash available as a contingency fund. Labour has been anxious that no more public money be spent on the scheme, which is already costing £200 million more than initial estimates.

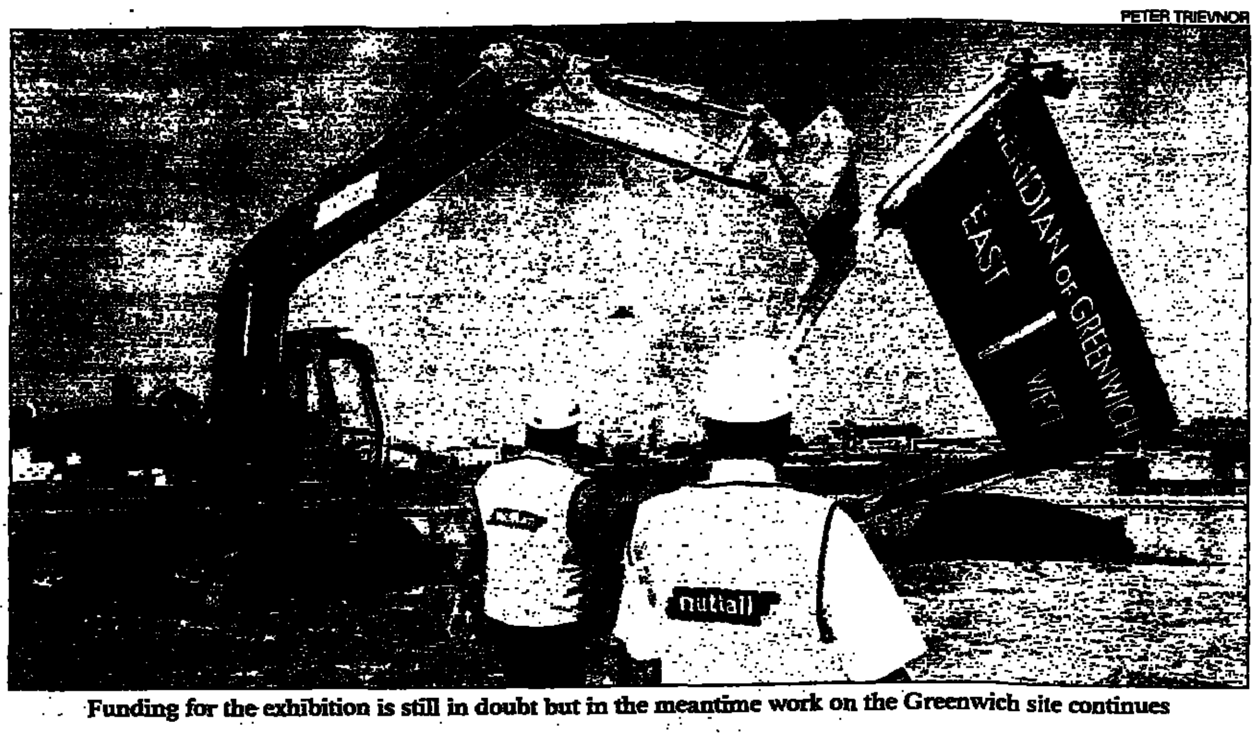
In a letter to Mrs Bottomley, Jack Straw, the Shadow Heritage Secretary, said he had grave concerns about the spiralling cost of the dome. However he provided a vital survival line for the project when he agreed that he could envisage a "time-limited" extension of the life of the commission, which is due to be wound up in 2000 and at present receives 20 per cent of lottery money. That is understood to be the key area of negotiation between the commission, the Government and the Opposition. Meetings will be held over the next few days to reach an agreement.

Millennium Central, the organisers of the exhibition, said officially last night that it was prepapring for further discusiions with the commission. Sources were bemused that an announcement had been made without a deal being tied up.

The news was welcomed by Len Duvall, leader of Greenwich Council. "We are delighted," he said. "There is clear need for decisive leadership to make sure the project is delivered in a way that can satisfy the country. The Millennium Exhibition is a unique opportunity for the UK, we have to make the most of it and Greenwich will," he said.

The dome, planned for a former gasworks site, will be big enough to hold two stadiums the size of Wembley and will house the Millennium Exhibition Centre.

PETER TREVNOR



Funding for the exhibition is still in doubt but in the meantime work on the Greenwich site continues

Archers addict scores a bullseye

By Alan Hamilton

A SELF-CONFESSED addict of *The Archers* paid £920 for a collection of memorabilia at auction yesterday. Peter Tewkesbury, 56, an electronics engineer from Horsham, West Sussex, has listened to all but two episodes since the serial began in January 1951. "I was a child in bed with chicken pox, homesick for the Midlands; its appeal was instant and it has stayed with me ever since," he said yesterday.

Mr Tewkesbury was one of only two serious bidders at Phillips in central London for the press cuttings, original scripts and photographs associated with the 45-year-old radio serial. The material had been owned by Tony Shryane, the retired BBC producer who supervised more than 7,000 editions of the programme.

As one of the programme's most devoted fans, Mr Tewkesbury takes his collection to conventions of other Archers addicts and gives lectures on what has long been a national institution.

The prize that eludes him is a copy of the *Country House Cookbook* written and published by Caroline Bone, the character who recently lost her husband Guy Pemberton.

Another anonymous buyer paid £575 for the original gramophone record of the serial's signature tune, *Barwick Green*.

Faces that did not fit Prince's design for architecture group

By Emma Wilkins

THE governing council dismissed yesterday from the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture was drawn from the arts and the financial world as well the architecture profession. The 14 members asked to relinquish their posts included personal friends of the Prince.

Lord Morris of Castle Morris was Principal of St David's University College, Lampeter, and edited the New Arden Shakespeare series from 1974-1982. He is a former chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission and a member of the Welsh Arts Council. He is an opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland in the Lords.

The writer **Candida Lycett Green** is the daughter of Sir John Betjeman, the late Poet Laureate. She is a long-standing close friend of the Prince, sharing his interest in historic houses and churches. **Henry Boyd-Carpenter**, a partner at Farrer and Co, has been private solicitor to the Queen since 1955 and was solicitor to the Duchy of Cornwall from 1976 to 1994. He has a keen interest in gardening.

Demetri Porphyrios is widely regarded as the best architect working in the Classical tradition. He designed the extension to Magdalen College, Oxford.

Professor Keith Critchlow, an expert on Islamic architecture, accompanied the Prince on his visit to Morocco in February. He is a former tutor and research director at the Architectural Association. **Dr Brian Hanson** was a former director of the institute and remains on the teaching staff. He is a fan of John Ruskin, believing that there is as much merit in being a good bricklayer as in being an architect. **Professor John Barron** is Master of St Peter's College, Oxford. He is an expert on archaeology and a former director of the Institute of Classical Studies. **John Thompson** is a champion of one of the Prince's favourite themes, community architecture. **Professor Christopher Alexander** is an architectural theorist who helped to up the institute.

Sir Evelyn de Rothschild is the chairman of the family bank, NM Rothschild and Sons, and a well-known patron of the arts.

Stephen Lamport replaced Commander Richard Aylard as the Prince's private secretary earlier this year. He was previously a diplomat. **Dick Reid** is a specialist stone mason and sculptor who has worked on Windsor Castle, Hampton Court and York Minster.

Michael Abrahams CBE, deputy chairman of the institute, is director of numerous companies including Prudential and Waddingtons. **Alan Baxter** is chief executive of an engineering company.

Man and ancestor may have interbred

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

NEW evidence shows that *Homo erectus*, the strapping ancestor of modern man, was living in Java as recently as 27,000 years ago. The two species overlapped in time and may have interbred. Previously it was thought that *Homo erectus* died out at least 30,000 years earlier.

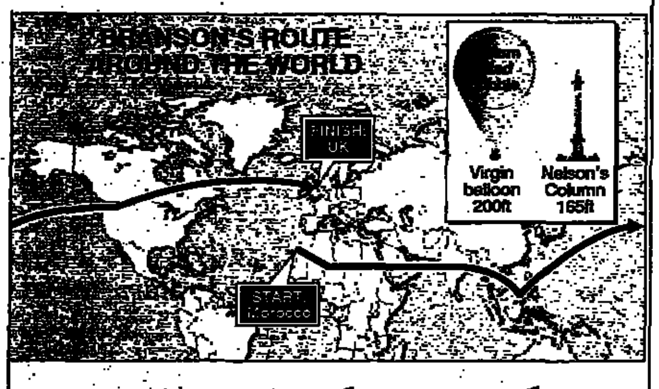
The evidence also means that three species — *Homo erectus*, *Homo sapiens*, and *Homo neanderthalis* — lived on Earth at the same time.

A team led by Dr Carl Swisher of the Berkeley Chronology Centre in California reports in *Science* that new dating techniques applied to two sites in Java where *Homo erectus* skulls have been found indicate their age at between 27,000 and 53,000 years.

The dates are open to question because they are not of the skulls themselves, but of teeth from water buffalo found in the same soil levels. The skulls contain no teeth and the university in Java that holds them has not allowed fragments of bone to be removed for dating.

The animal teeth are the next best thing and they were dated by electron spin resonance and uranium series dating.

The results are consistent and Dr Chris Stringer of the Natural History Museum described them as "very interesting indeed". He said that while some might question the reliability of the dates, the animal teeth came from two separate sites and gave the same answer.



Branson launches second attempt at balloon record

By Andrew Pierce

RICHARD BRANSON flies to Morocco tonight to begin the final countdown to his attempt to circumnavigate the globe in a hot-air balloon in 18 days.

The millionaire adventurer has dedicated the trip to the memory of the late Matthew Harding. The vice-chairman of Chelsea Football Club donated £1 million to the £3 million cost of the 15,750-mile voyage, which is to begin in Marrakesh and end in Oxfordshire. Mr Harding, a close friend of Mr Branson, visited the balloon factory in Oswestry, Shropshire, only hours before he was killed in a helicopter crash in October.

An attempt in January to launch the expedition was called off because of bad weather, but now the conditions are more favourable. The jetstreams required to propel the 12.5 tonne balloon — 200ft high when inflated — and capsule on the first leg of its journey are there.

The Virgin Challenger crew is on a 72-hour alert for takeoff. They are aiming to secure a place in *The Guinness Book of Records* by crossing more than 70 countries at an average altitude of 30,000 ft. The balloon should traverse Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and India, and head southeast from the Himalayas across Thailand, Vietnam and the Pacific before crossing the United States and arriving in Britain.

Steve Fossett, an American balloonist, is planning to leave Switzerland at the same time, planning to beat the British crew to the endurance record.

Since January, the Virgin Challenger team has had a new balloon envelope constructed, weighing 2.1 tonnes. Light and sound equipment designed to induce sleep is being installed in the 10 ft wide capsule, home for 18 days for the three men.

A communications centre at the Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington, west London, will be in round-the-clock contact with Mr Branson.

Before takeoff, Mr Branson, and his co-pilots Per Lindstrand and Rory McCarthy, will take tea with the King of Morocco.

The habit which kills one woman every 12 minutes

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

ALTHOUGH more men than women are killed by diseases which can be related to smoking, it is the increase in the death rate in women which can be attributed to smoking that has excited most interest. The percentage of younger women who smoke has risen in the past year by 5 per cent.

According to statistics released by the Health Education Authority, 77,500 men and 42,500 women died in 1995 from a disease that was likely to have been induced by their smoking. The statisticians estimate that a woman dies every 12 minutes of a tobacco-related condition.

Cancer of the lung is not the only cancer, or even the only disease, which is closely associated with smoking. It is a crucial factor in the development of cancer of the mouth, the larynx and upper respiratory tract. These tumours kill 2,000 people each year. Cancer of the bladder accounts for about the same number and cancer of the oesophagus (gullet) causes nearly 5,000 fatalities annually. Smoking is also a factor in the development of cancer of the cervix, and is thought to be responsible for some cases of malignant disease in the kidney, stomach and pancreas and myeloid leukaemia. Smoking is a significant risk factor in circulatory diseases as well as in chronic lung conditions, both of which account for a large proportion of deaths. Last year 293,193 British women died. Ischaemic heart disease, acute heart attacks and heart failure caused the death of approximately 118,400 women and another 37,500 died from strokes. Acute and chronic, but non-cancerous, lung disease killed 45,000. Cancer of the lung was fatal in 11,684 cases.

Breast cancer, cancer of the cervix and cancer of the lung affect women of all ages. However, diseases of the cardiovascular system are much more common and account for more deaths than all the other common causes put together. The increase in the death rate in women from coronary heart disease after the menopause is noticeable. A proportion of these must be related to smoking.

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Lawyer says victims of violence should sue film-makers

By Frances Gibb, legal correspondent

John Grisham: believed producers could be liable

VICTIMS of violent "copy cat" crimes should have the right to claim damages from the makers of films or television programmes, a barrister said yesterday. Claire Miskin, editor of the Entertainment Law Review, said that such actions were already being brought in the United States although she knew of none in Britain.

Ms Miskin said: "There is a rise in violence in society and a rise in copycat crimes. A number of film and television producers appear to have come to the view that violence makes money and extreme violence makes a lot of money, and that is all that matters. If the result is that innocent people get hurt or killed, it is nothing to do with them."

She admitted that it would be difficult to prove in court that a violent film had caused a crime but, in principle, such a legal remedy should exist. "It is difficult to see why an action for damages should not lie in appropriate cases."

The Law Commission said on Wednesday that drivers and others who caused injury should have to pay the hospital treatment costs for their victims. It said that, in cases where victims won damages, the National Health Service should be able to recoup an estimated £100 million a year from the insurers of those responsible.

In the United States, Sarah Edmonson, 19, and her former boyfriend, Benjamin Darras, 18, are awaiting trial for a shooting in Louisiana and the murder of Bill Savage in Mississippi. Both crimes were committed shortly after the couple had seen Oliver Stone's film *Natural Born Killers*, and were on their way from Oklahoma to Memphis. On their journey Darras is said to have said how much he would like to kill people at random.

John Grisham, the novelist, has argued that in some circumstances there should be a right of legal redress against film-makers. Oliver Stone has opposed any right of redress and has said that nobody can prove that his film caused the two young people to commit their crimes.

Lawyers had mixed views about the idea yesterday. Mark Stephens, of the City firm Stephens Innocent, said if such an action was brought it would be unlikely to get legal aid. But others thought it just a matter of time before such a case was brought.

There was mixed reaction also to the Law Commission proposals. Malcolm Henke, head of the motor claims unit at Davies Arnold Cooper, the City law firm which acts for several insurance companies, said the proposals were in line with the trend towards financing the NHS through the insurance industry. "At present this is restricted to hospital treatment; fees and welfare benefits. But future governments are unlikely to be able to afford to draw a line at that point," he said.

Sharon Taylor, insurance manager of VELO, a leading fleet accident and insurance management company, said the proposals seemed logical at first glance. But there was a fear that the move would "create a dangerous precedent".

"Other legitimate accidents, such as those occurring in the home, could even become the next target for the NHS to recoup costs," she said. "Motorists are already heavily taxed. Are they now being asked to pay twice for NHS care — once via taxation and again through higher insurance premiums?"

David Pipkin, a legal executive and member of Davies Arnold Cooper's motor claims unit, warned that the proposals could have a heavy knock-on effect for motorists.

He said it was not clear how the NHS would calculate its services. If it charged on the same scales as it did for private medical treatment, the costs would be "very significant" and the rise in premiums substantial.

Law report, page 35

Tony Blair as a baby with his mother Hazel, who hailed from a family of farmers in Co Donegal

Ulster roots give hope of harmony for Blair visit

By Arthur Leathley and Nicholas Watt

TONY BLAIR will send a message of reassurance to Ulster Unionists during his visit to Northern Ireland today. In a speech he will underline his commitment to a more neutral stance on the Province, to replace the republican sympathies of past Labour leaderships.

Mr Blair is well placed to build bridges with Unionists because he has strong Protestant roots in Ulster. His mother, Hazel, was from Co Donegal and he spent childhood holidays in her home town of Ballyshannon.

Senior figures deny that there are plans to form an alliance with the Unionists to bring down the Government. Mr Blair will, however, meet David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, as part of his effort to build confidence among loyalists. He will also visit Newry and Armagh, the constituency of Seamus Mallon, deputy leader of the nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party.

Mr Blair's speech in Belfast is expected to reflect his belief that political parties should be encouraged to reach agreement about a settlement on Ireland's future which respects both Unionist and nationalist traditions. This is a significant shift from the previous policy to press for a united Ireland by consent.

Mr Blair's mother, who died in 1975, was born Hazel Corscaden in 1923, a year after Co Donegal became one of the three Ulster counties to be excluded from the newly created Northern Ireland. She moved to Glasgow after her father died but retained strong links with Ulster.

Mr Blair, who grew up in northeast England, said shortly after he became party leader that his mother hailed from a "not particularly" Tory family of Protestant farmers. Georgina Johnston, whose husband Eddie is a second cousin of Mr Blair, recalled at the time: "Tony was very talkative. You knew that he would get on."

Mr Blair hit back yesterday at a Protestant leader who had criticised his marriage to a Roman Catholic. Robert Saulters, newly appointed master of the Orange Order in Northern Ireland, described him as a turncoat.

Mr Blair spoke out after a meeting Mary Robinson, the President of the Republic, in Dublin yesterday. "I married my wife because I love her," he said. "These religious differences do not matter. What is important is how people are trying hard to work for peace."

Mr Blair also met John Bruton, the Prime Minister, and Bertie Ahern, leader of Fianna Fail.

Leading article, page 19

The Anguishe ring

Signet sale rings up £20,000

By John Shaw

A RENAISSANCE signet ring went to an anonymous bidder for £20,700, more than three times the estimate, at Christie's in London yesterday.

The gold ring, found in a field near Foulsham, Norfolk, by the anonymous owner, features the coat of arms of Thomas Anguishe (1538-1617), a mayor of Norwich.

The ring's top swivels to reveal a skull on the reverse, thought to be a reference to the early deaths of some of Anguishe's children. Researchers found a portrait of Anguishe in Norwich, in which he was wearing the ring.

☐ The Marquess of Bristol sold the lordship of the manor of Sleaford for £11,250 at auction.

Aggression 'the norm' for children

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

TEENAGERS feel surrounded by violence and believe the aggression they see on television and film is a reflection of life at school and on the streets, according to research.

Media coverage has made British nine to 16-year-olds think that extraordinary events such as child murders and paedophile cases are becoming the norm, while the presentation of violence has heightened their awareness of it, a survey published by the Broadcasting Standards Council shows.

Lady Howe, the council's chairwoman, said: "What has to be a worry to everyone is the extent to which violence seems to be so much a feature of everyday as well as media life for young people."

The council's survey showed, however, that teenagers looked first to their parents and older siblings as role models, rather than to violent screen heroes.

Although most young people realised they could be influenced by the media, and nearly 60 per cent thought that aggression on television could encourage real-life violence, the survey revealed a high degree of media literacy. Young people could distinguish between fictional violence and that in factual programmes, such as the news. They were often more disturbed by violence in soap operas such as *EastEnders* than that in Hollywood films because it seemed more real to them.

Although the teenagers thought that ratings systems were needed to protect vulnerable people and children younger than themselves, most felt that the censors were out of touch with the values of young people.

The survey found that teenagers largely controlled their own viewing, lending weight to a plan by Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, to encourage more parental control over children's viewing habits.

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Turkey testers give frozen birds the cold shoulder

WEEKEND SHOPPING

Fresh beats frozen in the opinion of the Times panel, but Robin Young finds that only one thing makes turkey palatable for the experts: the trimmings

CAN you tell the difference between fresh and frozen turkey? Is buying fresh turkey worth it? Today, *The Times* is able to provide the answers to these crucial Christmas questions after a blind tasting with the help of the Good Housekeeping Institute.

We obtained from trade sources two supposedly identical Grade A frozen turkeys and a fresh one of similar weight, 7kg (16lb). Typical prices at present are £2.60 per kilogram frozen and £3.72 fresh. All supermarkets are stocking fresh birds.

They were cooked simultaneously at identical temperatures in three ovens by Claire Young of the institute. She lightly seasoned them, covered them with buttered foil and basted them regularly. They were cooked for 4½ hours and uncovered for the last 30 minutes to brown the skin.

Our tasters were Nico Ladenis, the Michelin three-star chef of Chez Nico at Ninety Park Lane; Lyn Hall, a cookery school director; Moyra Fraser, the head of the Good Housekeeping Institute; Fiona Hunter, the institute's nutritionist; Trish Davies, a home economist and food stylist; Rebecca Hopkins of the British Turkey Federation; and *The Times*'s own most discriminating palate, the wine correspondent Jane MacQuitty.

The three turkeys were presented alongside each other and the tasters asked to identify the fresh one. They all did so almost immediately. Both frozen birds had shrunk from the bone, one rather horribly so, leaving the keel protruding disquietingly from its chest.

Ms Hall remarked that both frozen birds showed a weird, unsightly pink staining in the flesh closest under the skin. Ms Davies agreed that was likely to arise from the freezing process and pointed out that both birds also showed blisters of white coagulated protein — "a horrible, soft, non-meat substance" — under the skin at the bottom of the breast: it was textureless gunge created by permafrost destroying texture in the flesh.

Such complaints, though, were as nothing compared to reactions to the birds' smell and flavour. "Numbers one and three [the frozen birds] have been fed on fish meal," said Mr Ladenis with distaste as soon as his knife cut into them. "They stink. Yeuch!" Quite independently, Ms MacQuitty, who tasted the turkeys separately, reeled in disgust. "They reek of fish oil. Appalling."

Our fresh bird had several advantages over those likely to be bought at supermarkets. It was a bronze (a black-feathered bird, traditionally supposed to have more flavour); it was free range, which clearly showed in the markedly darker meat of its well-developed legs; and it was farm-fresh, not having been gas-flushed (inert packed) and kept in chilled storage for up to six weeks, as is the case with some supermarket fresh birds.

The fresh bird carved and looked better but, although it was everyone's favourite, nobody thought much of the flavour. Ms Hall's note of "good, clear flavour of turkey from firm fine-grained meat" was the highest praise. "Gamey smell but the best flavour," Ms Davies thought. "Slightly fishy," Ms Fraser said, "and bland." Ms Hunter noted: "Still not much flavour," while Ms MacQuitty wrote: "Better textured, but bland all the same."

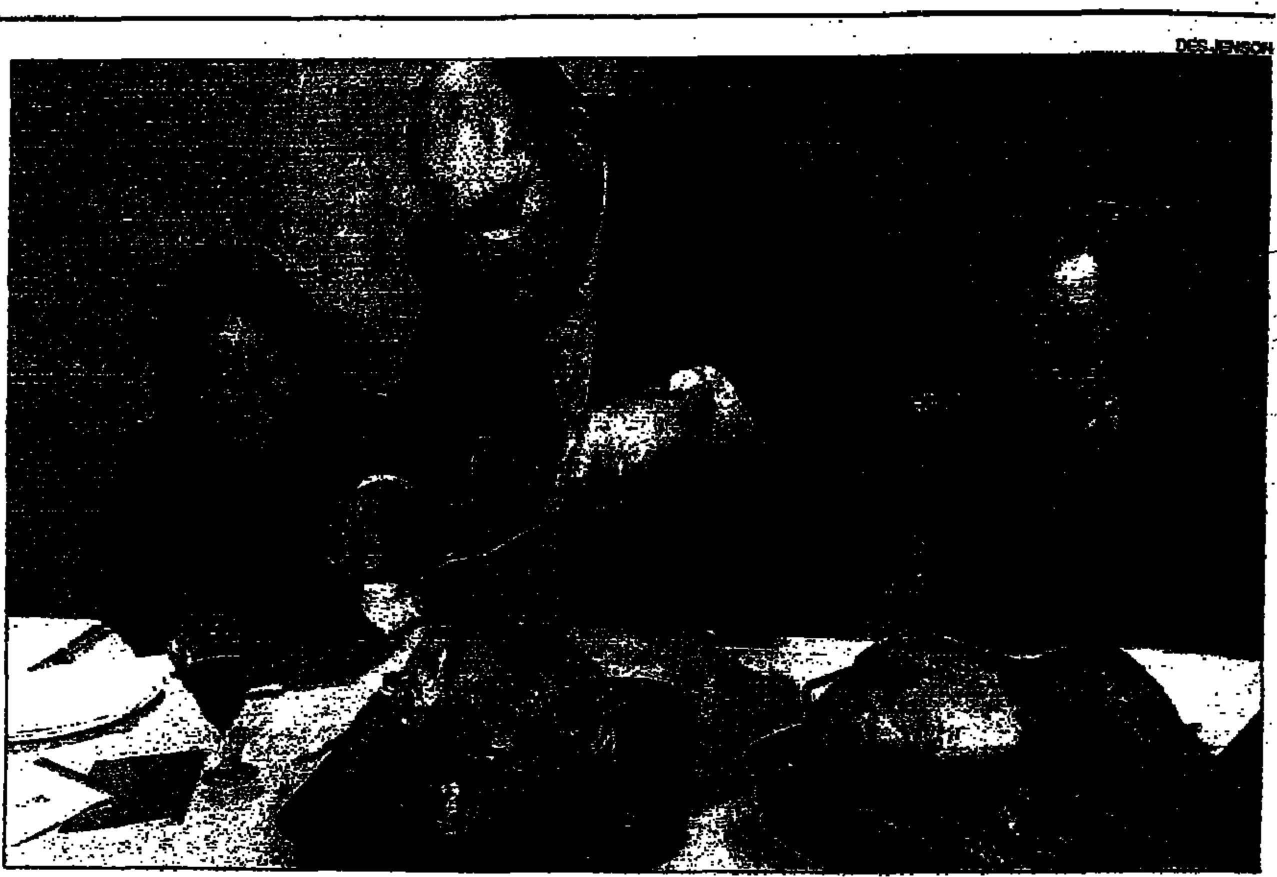
So should anyone buy frozen turkey? Last year, at promotional prices as low as 29p a pound, it was substantially cheaper than pet food and may be so again this year. No matter, said our panel. "I would never serve anyone frozen turkey," Ms MacQuitty declared.

"Stringy breast and muddy flavoured leg meat, off-putting and repulsive. Anyone who can taste at all is going to be offended and upset by it. If this is the national diet at Christmas no wonder people look forward to the New Year."

"Unpleasant, unpalatable," Ms Fraser wrote. "Like eating cardboard." Ms Hunter thought. "The taste is not good, and the flesh is very dry and stringy," Ms Davies said. "Inedible," was Ms Hall's succinct opinion. "Fishy, dry, and simply ghastly," Mr Ladenis said.

But is fresh turkey worth the premium? The tasters were doubtful. "We usually have a small turkey at home stuffed with truffles and as many good things as I can lay hands on," Mr Ladenis said. "This year I will tell my wife not to bother. I have had enough turkey for one year." "I'm getting goose," Ms MacQuitty said. Only Ms Hall and Ms Hopkins could muster enthusiasm for the thought of a turkey sandwich on Boxing Day.

They agreed that turkey worked only because of the stuffing, forcemeat, cranberry sauce, chipolatas, gravy and other trimmings. "The flavour depends on how the bird is cooked," said Ms Hopkins in her role as the turkeys' champion. "It is better to stuff, add herbs and other flavourings." As many as possible, our panel agreed, although with frozen birds there could never be enough.



DES JENSON

Nico Ladenis carves, watched by fellow members of the tasting panel, Lyn Hall, left, and Trish Davies

Little things that mean so much to Christmas cooks

By Robin Young

THE range of Christmas food products has never been more varied or tempting. Supermarkets, ever anxious to take on a bigger load of the family catering, have excelled themselves this year. New ranges of party foods include canapés and ethnic specialities such as sushi, dim sum, meze and antipasti.

Particularly commendable initiatives:

Iceland: liqueur-laced gateaux, including Irish Cream wrapped in chocolate and cream, £3.99 to serve eight, children's ice-cream trees, reindeer and snowmen, £1.49 to serve four.

Marks & Spencer: biggest and best range of party food: vegetarian chestnut roast with stuffing and cranberry sauce, £3.49, Connoisseur range of caramelised nuts, pricey but nice — macadamias £6.99 for 200g, almonds and cashews £4.99 for 200g, and pecans £4.99 for 175g.

Safeway: apples with Happy Christmas greeting "grown" into the skin, 39p, storage jar filled with nuts and nutcrackers £6.99.

Morrisons: oysters 39p each, fresh mussels 45p a lb, Stella Artois £8.99 for 440mlx24.

Tesco: mandarins with Cointreau £3.99, spiced cranberry chutney £2.99, Christmas berry vinegar in 1.5ltr reusable jar £19.99, range of cheese gifts from £1.99 to £19.99.

Waitrose: Marston's Pedigree ale, £2.23 for two 568ml bottles, 12 savoury bites £1.19, 12 mini Melton Mowbray pork pies £2.59, shortcrust mince pies 75p for six.

Asda: hot and spicy prawns £3.49 for 350g, mini party pizzas 99p for 275g, mini garlic/cheese bread slices, £1.39 for 200g, gateaux with four flavours £1.99 for 12 portions.

Harrods: smoked lamb £2.99 for 100g, Negroni extra season smoked ham £4.49 for 100g, Negroni Milano salami £2.20 for 100g.

Sainsbury's: Christmas pudding ice cream £1.99 for 500ml, Chocoholics' Survival Kit £2.99, Christmas pudding flavoured coffee £1.99 for 113g, double cream 99p for 568ml.

Somerfield: pre-sliced Scottish smoked salmon £4.99 for 400g, sausage rolls 89p for five.

Co-op: family pork pie 99p, frozen raspberry Pavlova £1.79, Stilton £4.95 a kg.

Budgens: Broad Oak gammon ham 79p a ¼lb, deluxe salmon selection £2.99 for 156g, Golden Wonder crisps five-pack 75p.

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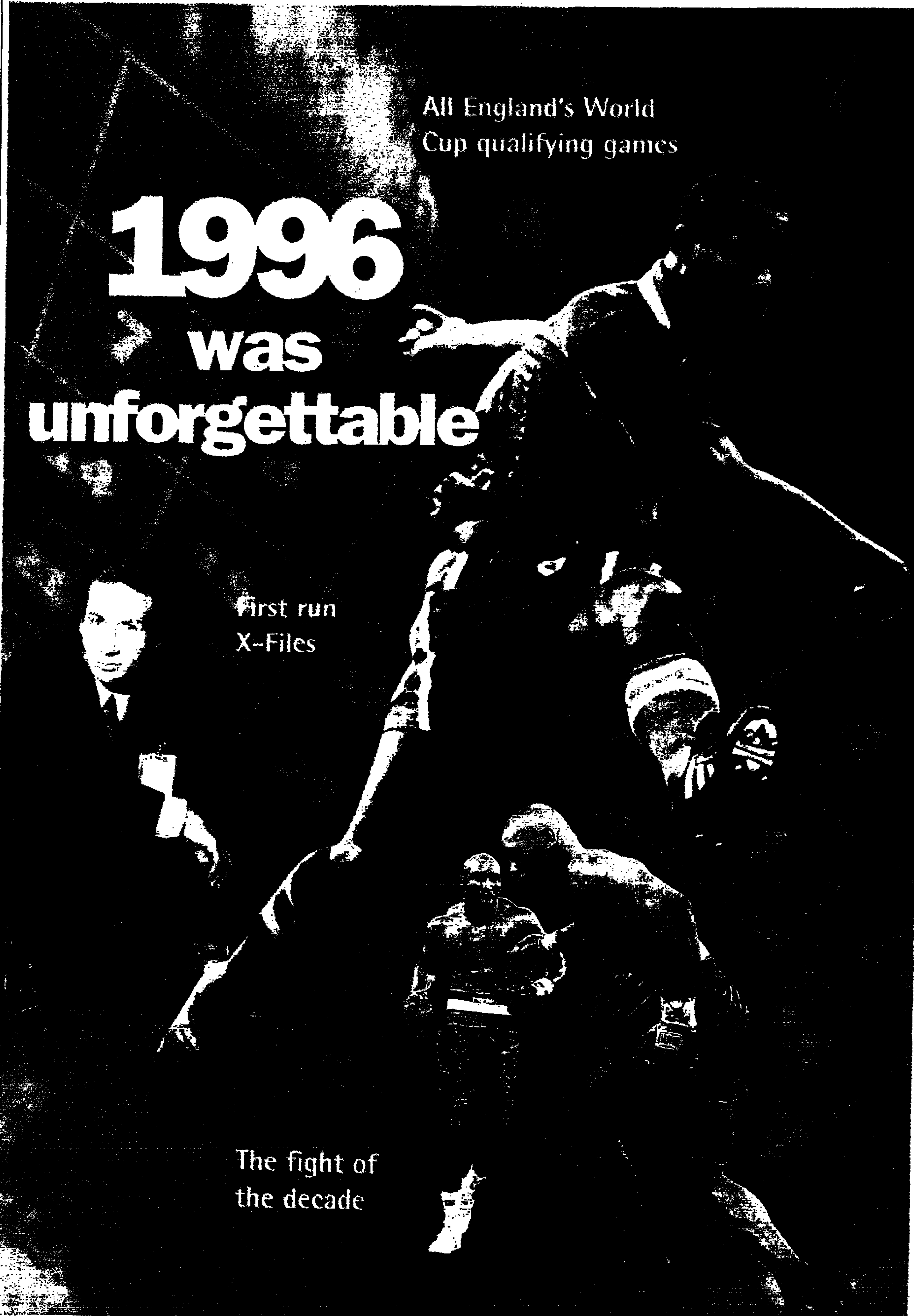
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Zito's killer wins right to sue over 'inadequate' care

By Dominic Kennedy

A PARANOID schizophrenic who stabbed a stranger to death yesterday won the right to sue a health authority for failing to properly care for him in the community.

Christopher Clunis, 34, is seeking an estimated £50,000 for the harm to his psychological health caused by his knife attack on Jonathan Zito, a 27-year-old musician, on a London Underground platform four years ago.

His claim is being supported by Mr Zito's widow, Jayne, because it is her only way of winning money from Camden and Islington Health Authority for the errors that cost her husband his life. Under a complicated arrangement, she could benefit from the action.

The High Court judgment in favour of Clunis, who is receiving legal aid, opens the way for others to claim compensation for the distress their killings have caused them.

Judge Richard Mawrey, QC, refused to strike out the claim. He dismissed the health authority's view that it was against the public interest for killers to profit from their criminal acts and rejected the idea that it would "offend the public conscience".

He described Mr Zito's death as a senseless and unprovoked killing. Clunis had admitted manslaughter but has now issued a writ for "failure to care" against Camden and Islington.

An inquiry accused the health authority, social workers and police of a "catalogue of failure and missed opportunity". Clunis says that by the time he killed Mr Zito he was faced with a medical condition that had deteriorated to the point where the police had become concerned but the authority did nothing to treat or restrain him. Given appropriate medical treatment, he would not have killed.

"As it is, the very killing of Mr Zito has caused his condition to worsen dramatically," said the judge. He followed the precedent set by the case in which a burglar claimed damages after being shot by a man exasperated by depredations on allotments where he had a shed. "The rule that a man may not profit by his crime was said, in effect, not to apply because compensation for personal injury was not a profit."

The judge said health authorities were already liable for damages if mental patients committed suicide because of lack of treatment. It was illogical for them to owe a duty of care to patients who harmed themselves but none to those who harmed others.

Mrs Zito, who attended the hearing, said she was legally unable to sue the health authority. Instead, she is suing Clunis for an estimated £100,000. His action includes an indemnity, making the health authority pay any claim she wins against him.

Mrs Zito said: "If we are not successful, the current crisis in community care will continue. More people will die through homicide and suicide."

The authority has yet to decide whether it will appeal. Health leaders reacted with dismay to the ruling, which they fear could cost them a fortune in damages.

Christopher Clunis, left, stabbed Jonathan Zito to death while suffering from paranoid schizophrenia

JAMES HORTON

Jayne Zito: she is supporting the damages claim of her husband's killer

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gretna records stay in Britain

A tin box of marriage records from Gretna Green, dating from 1794 to 1896, was sold at auction yesterday for £13,225. The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, based in Canterbury, beat off bids at the Newcastle auction from Canada, America and Australia, where many of the couples emigrated. Liz Bregazzi, who bought the collection for the institute, said: "We wanted to keep it together and ensure it remained in this country rather than see it split up and go into private hands."

Libel award cut

The Court of Appeal has cut to £55,000 the "clearly excessive" £115,000 libel damages awarded in the High Court last year to Barry Jones, 54, of St Just, Cornwall, after the *Sunday Mirror* accused the Moscow-based businessman of being a pimp working with the KGB.

Global attraction

The reconstructed Globe theatre in London has been voted the best tourist attraction in Europe by the Association of European Tourism Journalists. The theatre, on the south bank of the Thames, will stage its first major Shakespearean production in the summer.

Nigel's number

Nigel Bowerbank, a 45-year-old Essex businessman, paid £60,000 plus £20,000 VAT and commission at the DVLA's Classic Collection auction in London for the numberplate NI GEL, which he will mount on his Rolls-Royce. 1P fetched £51,500 and 1V £48,500.

Donor saves hall

An anonymous benefactor has donated £1 million to stop a Grade I listed stately home falling into private hands. Lytham Hall, Lancashire, built in 1752, will now be developed by an independent trust as a gallery and education and visitor centre.

Widow killed

An elderly widow found stabbed to death at her home had been the victim of a sex attack, police said. Alice Rye, 74, was found by neighbours in the village of Spital, Merseyside, where she had lived alone since the death of her husband ten years ago.

Lennon theft

A thief stole a pair of sunglasses that belonged to John Lennon from a display cabinet at an exhibition of pop memorabilia. The round-framed, mirrored glasses, worth £7,500, were taken from the Stanley Gibbons auction rooms in central London.

Sex and the single gene that does it all

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

A SINGLE gene controls the sexual behaviour of the male *fruit fly*, American scientists have shown.

The gene — *fru* — not only determines sexual orientation but almost all the steps in the male's courting ritual.

The result is a surprise, as it has been assumed that behaviours this complex would be controlled by several genes. "This work shows that a single gene can do so — at least in fruit flies," Dr Bruce Baker of Stanford University, California, said.

Males with mutations in the *fru* gene become bisexual. However, the team reports in *Cell* that the gene controls much more than simply a choice of mate; it apparently orchestrates the neurons that control male courtship and copulation. It is also one of a small group of genes that govern all sexual behaviour, including the development of male or female organs.

Could humans have a similar gene? "In any complex organism, brain function must be controlled in part by genes," Professor Jeffrey Hall, a team member from Brandeis University, said.

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"Brilliant, compelling, witty… destined to become a classic"
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The Times

هكذا مع الأصل

Stationery Office inquiry expected

By Valerie Elliott

THE £54 million sale of Her Majesty's Stationery Office is expected to be investigated by the National Audit Office.

According to a report in *The Economist* today an inquiry is to be announced any day after claims in the City and Westminster that the deal was "a political fix". A National Audit Office spokeswoman confirmed that the matter was being "closely considered".

Concern about October's sale has largely dwelt on the final knockdown price secured by the new owners, a consortium run by Electra Fleming. Suspicions have been aroused because the consortium offered £70 million, and original City estimates for the sale were £140 million.

But *The Economist* today suggests that the company was in "such a shambles" that any bidder would have fought hard for a lower price. The buyers were astounded by the chaos at the HMSO, which is now called the Stationery Office.

A Manchester warehouse was stuffed with 100 million wrongly printed inland revenue forms, and computers were stockpiled because too many had been ordered. Four properties owned by HMSO were not listed in the assets.

£500m spent on welfare benefit overpayments

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

A CATALOGUE of error and fraud in the social security budget, including more than £500 million in overpayments, was disclosed in a report by the public spending watchdog yesterday.

For the eighth successive year Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor General, has been unable to give the accounts a clean bill of health. Fraudulent income support claims continue to cost the taxpayer £1.4 billion a year.

The National Audit Office report also shows a disturbing level of error in the calculation of benefit entitlements. It identifies overpayments totalling £515 million in the payment of income support and family credit alone. Much of this will never be recovered.

The Benefits Agency has yet to identify the cause of all these, some of which will be fraudulent claims. In cases of staff error, and in fraud cases where there is no prospect of recovering money, the amounts are written off. For the 1995-96 financial year about £96 million has already been written off in overpayments, comprising £62 million attributed to staff error and £34 million in debts deemed uncollectable.

But on income support claims alone, more than a fifth of all assessments were wrong. The agency allows for a 13 per cent margin of error, so the 21.9 per cent figure is causing serious concern.

Despite the efforts of Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, to reduce benefit fraud, it remains a big drain on the budget. Sir John approved the measures being taken to prevent fraud, saying that for every £1 spent the Benefits Agency recovered £5. His report also suggests that £37 million spent on invalid care allowance may be fraudulent. He is expecting significant discovery of fraud in claims for disability living allowances. The Benefits Agency has been reviewing the payments but has yet to analyse the findings.

The Benefits Agency has overspent its budget for the fourth consecutive year. This year it was allocated a total £34.3 billion but spent a further £184.7 million.

The National Audit Office recognises the difficulties in controlling demand-led spending, but hopes that the new benefit payment card will help to produce more reliable spending forecasts.

But Sir John indicated that he had had no choice but to qualify this year's audit because of the overspend and the "material error" in income support and family credit, and because benefit expenditure was "materially affected" by fraud.

On income support, the overpayment was £485.4 million, while underpayments were £167.5 million. These errors represent 3.8 per cent of the total £17 billion allocated for income support payments.

On family credit, errors were found in 10.6 per cent of all awards. Some £29.8 million related to family credit overpayments, while £11.6 million related to underpayments. This represented 2.4 per cent of the total £1.7 billion spent on family credit.

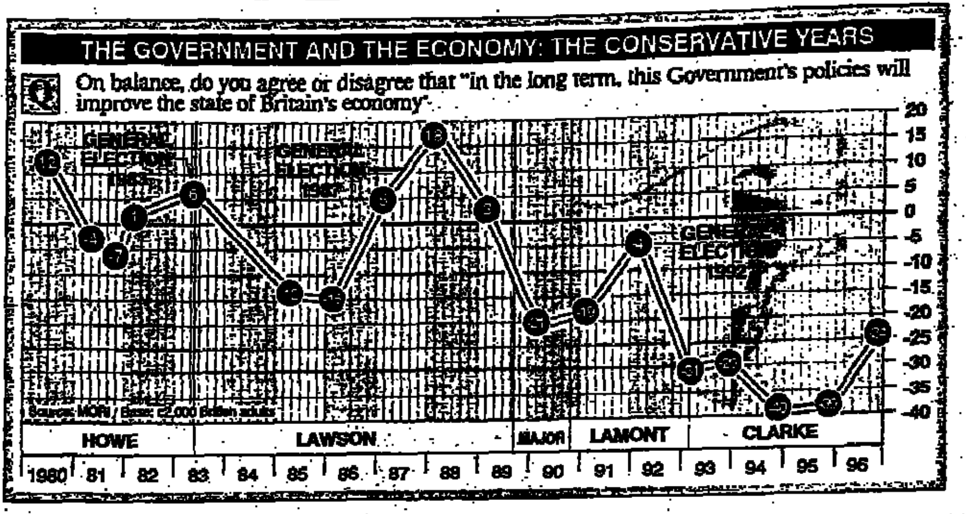
Sir John said in his report: "I share the Benefits Agency's concern at the scale of fraud and support their work to estimate the level of fraud in individual benefits and to improve their anti-fraud measures. In view of its importance I shall continue to monitor progress closely and will continue to keep Parliament informed of developments."

He added: "However . . . in view of the level of fraud disclosed by the Benefits Agency's work, I have no alternative but to qualify my opinion on this account."

Sir John also urged the agency to take further action to reduce the huge backlog of overpayment cases awaiting investigation to determine whether the money should be recovered or written off.

Poll shows huge Tory task on economy

By Arthur Leathley
Political Correspondent



CONFIDENCE in the economy fell after the Budget last month, with most people expecting to be worse off as a result of Kenneth Clarke's proposals. Fifty-four per cent thought that the Budget would be bad for them personally, while 20 per cent expected to benefit.

According to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*, the lead on the economy that the Conservatives gained over Labour in July has again slipped, with only 28 per cent believing the Tories have the best economic policies, compared with 31 per cent backing Labour.

The net balance of those who considered the Budget good for the nation, minus those viewing it as bad, stood at minus 23, the best figure in response to any Budget this Parliament.

With the economy ranking as one of the most important issues for voters, the poll emphasises the size of the Conservatives' task compared with the run-up to past elections. On the key figure indicating whether people think the economy will improve during the next year, the poll gives a rating of minus 9, achieved by subtracting those who think it will get worse from those who think it will improve. In recent months the "economic optimism index" has been evenly balanced.

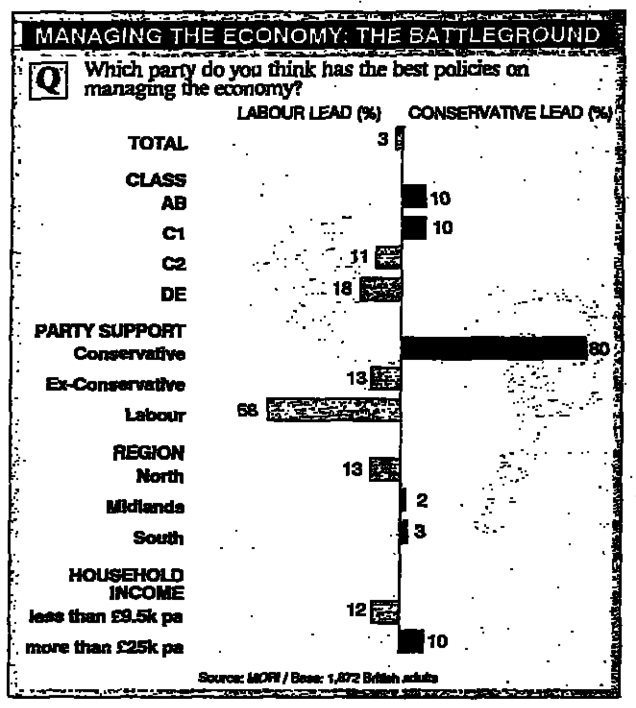
As in each of the run-ups to the past three general elections, the public view of the Government's economic performance is slowly improving. However, the base from which the Tory party is working is lower than ever before.

The Government stands at a net balance of minus 24 when people are asked whether they think its economic policy will lead to long-term improvements for the country. After the final Budget before the 1992 election, the figure was minus 4. Before the Budget preceding the 1987 election, the Government's rating was plus 5. In 1983 the party stood at plus 6.

Mr Clarke's own rating has also slipped. Although the Chancellor substantially improved his personal rating last month to minus 4, compared with minus 29 in 1995, it fell back markedly this month to minus 17. Even so, with 34 per cent of those questioned saying they are satisfied with his performance, Mr Clarke's performance still outstrips that of John Major, whose satisfaction rating has slipped to 30 per cent, down by six points on last month.

The December poll reveals an unprecedented rise in the importance of Europe as an issue of public concern. In the wake of continuing infighting within the Tory party, the subject is ranked by voters as the second most important issue, trailing only behind the health service. With 38 per cent of people registering Europe alongside education as one of the most important issues facing the country, the topic has reached its most prominent level in public perception since it first featured in MORI polls a decade ago.

☐ *MORI interviewed 1,872 adults at 165 sampling points from December 6 to 9.*



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THERE'S A GREAT DEAL GOING ON THIS CHRISTMAS

'Poorest will gain nothing from the minimum wage'

By Dominic Kennedy, Social Affairs Correspondent

A MINIMUM wage of more than £4 an hour would mainly benefit the wrong people, doing little to narrow the gap between rich and poor, according to a report.

The unexpected findings, published today by the respected Institute for Fiscal Studies, may embarrass the Labour Party, which is committed to eradicating low pay. The paradox arises because of the nature of poverty in Britain, where unemployment has a greater effect than poor earnings.

The poorest families tend to have no work, so a minimum wage is irrelevant to them. But the better-off households include many with two earners, one of whom may be low-paid and likely to benefit from a minimum wage. The biggest group of low earners are young single people living at home with their parents, who subsidise their lifestyle.

Amanda Gosling of the institute said: "The central argument for a minimum wage is a social justice one. Because many of the poor are not in work, a minimum wage is not a good way to redistribute income from the rich to the poor. Most of those who gain will be couples where both partners work and young single people living with their parents. These people are richer than the unemployed or many pensioners."

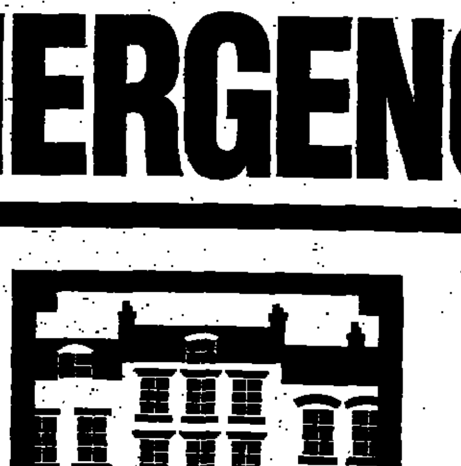
Although a minimum wage will never improve the incomes of those who do not work, it might harm them by increasing prices on goods and services produced by the low-paid.

Most supporters of a minimum wage want it to be set at half average earnings, but that figure differs widely depending how it is calculated. Labour has refused to specify an amount, but is reported to prefer between £3 and £3.50 an hour, which is half the average wage of all adult workers, including part-timers. The Trades Union Congress wants £4.26, based on half the earnings of full-time working men.

Because the proportion of poorly paid workers is bigger than during the mid-1980s, even a minimum wage set at £3 would affect 7 per cent of workers. At £4.50, it would help 40 per cent of working women and 20 per cent of working men.

A minimum wage could help the Department of Social Security by reducing the need for in-work, means-tested benefits. Unemployment is unlikely to be affected by a moderate minimum wage, according to recent research.

☐ *Fiscal Studies* (IFS, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE; £8)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هكذا من الاهمال

Chirac picks 'tame' questioners for his pep talk on TV

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

EVEN before he hit the airwaves last night in a televised attempt to restore confidence in his battered Government, President Chirac was already under attack for selecting "tame" interviewers rather than face the sharp-tongued veterans of the French media.

Critics quickly pointed out that the five questioners handpicked by the President's advisers for last night's live 90-minute broadcast, the first time M Chirac has addressed the nation at length since July 14, were all young and relatively inexperienced.

"Is it reasonable to allow the President to choose the journalists who will question him on television? That is not how modern democracies work," argued Jean-Michel Thenard, of the left-orientated *Libération* newspaper.

The Government rejected charges that the interview, filmed amid the splendours of the Elysée Palace, was a stage-managed piece of theatre designed to demonstrate President Chirac's continued commitment to economic and monetary union (EMU) on the eve of the European Union summit in Dublin.

Even with a panel of docile interviewers lobbing easy questions, M Chirac faced an uphill task in his efforts to lighten the mood of national pessimism and restore his own waning credibility. Despite offering hints of a "surprise" in the interview to ensure that viewers tuned in, officials made it clear that M Chirac would not outline any radical new policy initiatives. Rumours of an imminent reshuffle, a referendum, or a dissolution of parliament and an early election were all dismissed.

Record-breaking levels of unemployment, weak economic growth, industrial unrest, fears of Islamist terrorism and a wave of damaging corruption scandals have prompted what *Le Monde* called "an unprecedented loss of confidence", which the President's expected mantra on the need for fiscal austerity in the drive for a single currency is most unlikely to alleviate.

Faith in the Government has been further undermined by the recent botched privatisation of the Thomson electronics and defence group, internal sniping within the ruling Gaullist party, and mounting debate over the "franc fort" policy linking the French currency with the mark and the vaunted long-term benefits of EMU.

Last night's media exercise, carefully orchestrated by M Chirac's communications advisers — his daughter, Claude, and spin-doctor Jacques Pilhan — was billed as a pre-Christmas pep talk and therapy session, an opportunity to explain and defend government policy, not alter it.

However, the latest opinion polls suggest that the public has already heard, and largely rejected, the Government's explanations. Confidence in M Chirac and Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, slumped again in a survey released on Wednesday, and another poll showed that 54 per cent of voters now believe M Juppé should be sacked.

Barely a year and a half into his seven-year term, M Chirac and his advisers are painfully aware of the need for a bravura television performance to lift the nation's sagging spirits.

As *Le Monde* newspaper declared darkly: "Faced with a deeply confused and angry public, Jacques Chirac must reassure and convince us that he knows where he is going and that he has taken in hand the destiny of France."

HELEEN VAN GEEST/REUTER

A Siberian tiger, chicken in mouth, at Harbin Tiger Park in Heilongjiang province, northeast China. The park rescued 50 of the starving animals from a breeding farm which suffered cash problems when the Government banned using tiger body parts to make traditional medicines

Barshefsky: benefits exceed tariff savings

Trade pact will scrap tariffs on info tech

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

NEARLY 30 countries were last night on the brink of an historic trade pact to scrap tariffs on $600 billion (£364 billion) of information technology products — so marking a triumphant start for the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Sir Leon Brittan, the European Trade Commissioner, said yesterday: "It will be good for the information technology industry, and will act as a catalyst for industrial growth. As such, it will be good for the whole world economy."

Charlene Barshefsky, the acting US Trade Representative, said the benefits would far exceed the savings from tariff reductions. "The extent of tariff savings, which I guess would be quite hefty, doesn't begin to measure the ultimate economic benefits of agreements of this sort," she said.

The proposal, the largest trade liberalisation pact for a single industry, would stimulate world trade in a huge range of high-technology products by lifting tariffs within five years.

The agreement to scrap tariffs on 180 products was reached at the WTO's inaugural meeting in Singapore despite disputes between the United States and the European Union, which had threatened to derail the talks. The products covered by the Information Technology Agreement include digital photocopiers, fibre-optic cables, computer monitors and software, telecommunications equipment and semiconductors. The final compromise excluded consumer electronics and audio materials.

The cuts would take place in four stages beginning next July and ending in January 2000. Other signatories included Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Canada and Australia.

Officials said additional support from India and Mexico would be crucial as it would lift the information technology trade to almost 90 per cent, the level required if the pact is to take effect.

Police bar march to home of Milosevic

FROM JAMES PETTIFER
IN BELGRADE

TENS of thousands of mostly young demonstrators poured through central Belgrade yesterday in protest against the regime of Slobodan Milosevic. The streetwide column of marchers wound round the main central landmarks like a great human snake, bringing the city to a halt.

Heavily armed riot police turned demonstrators away as they tried to march on President Milosevic's home in the city's Dedinje district. The confrontation stayed peaceful. Most protesters stayed well back as their representatives negotiated with police blocking entry to the district.

Mr Milosevic is relying on a heavy police presence to keep order in central Belgrade, although I saw conscripts in lorries in the key southern industrial city of Nis yesterday. The police have more than adequate resources, with more men in the police these days than in the army. The young people are managing to keep up their enthusiasm as the icy Serbian winter begins.

"I don't think we will give up, but then neither will he. Milosevic is waiting for us to go home for Christmas," Dusan Vranic, a philosophy student, said. The dilemma of the protesters is that, without support from the industrial workers or foreign governments, or both, Mr Milosevic can sit out protests more or less indefinitely.

Their anger has shifted from Ivor Roberts, the British Ambassador, who was pictured last week in an opposition newspaper as a pig sharing a trough with Mr Milosevic, to the Americans. President Clinton cancelled a visit to Belgrade today by John Kornblum, his Balkan envoy, but otherwise verbal threats about reintroducing sanctions are the name of the game in Washington.

It is a game President Milosevic knows well how to play. Young Serb dissidents like Ivo, a waiter, see it as a weak response to the situation: "The Americans would not know what to do without Milosevic to hate. I think they think he will rule Serbia for 500 years and the Serbian people will be slaves to him. Well, we are not."

Action on the industrial front is more difficult to find than among the young and middle-class. Some factories held short strikes yesterday, but the trade unions have yet to show they are able to organise a national protest.

☐ Sarajevo: Bosnia's collective presidency agreed yesterday to nominate a Muslim and a Serb as joint Prime Ministers. They are Haris Silajdzic, former Prime Minister of Bosnia, and Boro Bosic, a Serb and former manager of a power plant. *(Reuter)*

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هكذا في الأصل

Treaty draft leaves Major with fewer chances to play a sceptic hand

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER
IN DUBLIN

FLASHPOINTS

JOHN MAJOR has fewer targets to attack than he might have expected when he makes what could be his last appearance at a European Council summit, in Dublin today and tomorrow.

If the general election goes Labour's way, Tony Blair will be in Britain's negotiating seat in six months' time when the final seal should be put on the new treaty to shape Europe's destiny into the next century.

The possible change of government has undoubtedly had a bearing on the slow pace of negotiations, with some countries clearly believing, rightly or wrongly, that Mr Blair will be more amenable to change.

But the Irish version of the draft treaty, to go before the leaders this afternoon, at least offers Mr Major a handful of so-called "show-stoppers" — issues on which he feels so strongly that he would veto them if necessary. Mr Major will, in any case, open his speech today by making plain that Britain under his leadership cannot agree to any new treaty until his demand for an opt-out from the European Court of Justice ruling — imposing the 48-hour week — is met.

The controversial plans to abolish all frontier controls in the European Union is a godsend to Conservative strategists looking for issues on which Mr Major could happily flaunt his Euro-sceptic credentials. It is a subject, however, on which there is little clear water between the parties. Labour has also declared its opposition.

More promising — in terms of a spat between the two parties — is the proposal in the draft for a new "employment chapter", creating a tier of bureaucracy responsible for co-ordinating employment policy across the EU.

Mr Major also opposes plans to set up a European police force, although he does favour greater co-operation through Europol, the European police agency.

On extending qualified majority voting, it will be surprising if Mr Major does not again make plain that he is against any weakening of the veto. The flashpoints are:

☐ Border controls: the treaty says all controls, including passport checks, are to be abolished by 2001. One external border with common rules on visas will apply.

Britain, backed by Denmark and to a lesser extent France, insists on keeping its own border controls and believes one external border would be ineffective.

☐ Immigration and asylum: common entry and residence conditions and procedures for issuing visas. One policy on asylum.

Britain insists on its own policies; allowing Brussels to handle them would be ceding sovereignty.

☐ Law and justice: common action on all forms of co-operation between competent ministries and judicial authorities.

Britain favours more co-operation but not of handing more power to European courts.

☐ Employment policy: members required to co-ordinate employment policies with new committee in Brussels to issue guidelines.

Britain is fiercely opposed; employment creation is a matter for the United Kingdom, not Brussels.

☐ Common foreign policy: treaty proposes machinery for increasing international influence with appointment of high-level figure. Majority voting for decisions, provided they were agreed by all.

Britain is happy with appointment of EU foreign policy spokesmen, but against an all-powerful Secretary of State for Europe.

☐ National veto: No text yet, but Irish presidency says it is essential to make significant progress on qualified majority voting.

Britain opposes any erosion of the right to veto.

John Redwood and
Hervé de Charette, page 18
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Kohl fuels fears of war to drum up support for euro

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, girding himself for a difficult Dublin summit, yesterday resorted again to the double-edged rhetoric of war and peace, giving a warning that tighter European integration was the only alternative to resurgent, potentially violent, nationalism.

The opposition Social Democrats and Greens launched into the German leader after he presented his government declaration on Europe to parliament yesterday, but the criticism concentrated on the neglect of unemployment rather than on economic and monetary union principles.

Herr Kohl, as he heads for a summit that will signpost the future of the euro, seems to have rallied support from his parliament to push hard for a tough stability pact. In the German view this pact should be able to impose sanctions, more or less automatically, on EMU members with lax fiscal discipline.

Joschka Fischer, the Green party leader, believes that Herr Kohl is being too rigid and accused both Bonn and the Bundesbank of indulging in ritulised stability fetishism.

An opinion poll published yesterday demonstrated how the domestic pressure is mounting on the Chancellor to fight for a strong euro. According to the Allensbach Institute, 53 per cent of Germans expressed fears about monetary union in October 1995, 57 per cent in April 1996 and about 61 per cent of Germans today say they are alarmed. Outright rejection of the euro was registered by 47 per cent of Germans; support by only 26 per cent. When the word "Europe" is put to Germans, 82 per cent think first of crime, 79 per cent of excessive bureaucracy, and only 29 per cent associate it with good living standards.

The Chancellor, then, is squeezed between an increasingly sceptical German population and his increasingly irritated European partners. "I am confident that we will find a solution that will show all citizens the determination of the European Union to create a euro with long-term stability," he said. The wary popular mood shows why the German political class has been so determined to exclude the possibility of postponing EMU from public debate.

Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission, tried in a press interview yesterday to persuade the Germans that there was no real alternative to starting EMU on time. "A postponement would have serious consequences, not only economic ones but political ones ... you can't just stop the clock for a couple of hours or a month as they do in agricultural policy. It would take a whole generation before the subject was back on the agenda."

Herr Kohl has been soft-pedalling his references to EMU and European political union as an alternative to a fractious Europe riven by hostile coalitions. Yesterday, however, he returned to the old rhetoric — "not so much sabre as ploughshare rattling" in the words of one crusty diplomat watching the debate — on the ground that only fear of war can now out-trump the German fear of losing the mark.

"The concept of the European Union is the only way we can set ourselves against nationalism, power politics and war," said the Chancellor to applause from his own ranks. Quoting with approval from his late friend François Mitterrand — "Nationalism is war" — Herr Kohl said that the past continental wars imposed a historical duty on Germany. "We have to build a common European house with effective institutions and shape the will for common action."

Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate

Mitterrand: he said that "nationalism is war"

ARND WIEGMANN/REUTER

Kenneth Clarke arrives in Dublin for a finance ministers' meeting before the summit

Former sideshow elbows its way into the spotlight

BY ROBERT WORCESTER

[illegible]

EUROPE is seizing people's attention as a political issue after two or three decades as an "also ran". Nearly one person in four, 24 per cent, now believes that Europe is the single most important issue facing Britain.

This is an all-time record figure, according to MORI's December poll for *The Times*, exceeding levels seen since the referendum of 1975. Europe is now thought by twice as many people as last month to be the top issue facing the country. Unemployment at 16 per cent, law and order at 14 per cent and healthcare, education and the economy, all at 9 per cent, trail behind as an issue.

When asked what they see as other issues facing Britain and all these are combined, 38 per cent mention the European dimension, second only to the healthcare issue at 42 per cent.

While this exceptionally high level is no doubt in part a reflection of the media coverage of Tory splits, it also signals the focusing of people's minds on the imminence of a general election.

The argument on Europe seems now to be fast catching the public's attention. This is especially true of Conservative supporters. Nearly half, 49 per cent, named Europe as an important issue, as did 47 per cent of the Tory switchers, the key group who said they voted Conservative in 1992 but do not intend to do so again.

My belief is that Europe is more of an "image" issue than an "issue" issue: its importance is the cause of Tory division rather than a banner behind which floating voters might rally.

Voters react strongly against divided parties, and the European question has become a symbol of the divisions in the Conservative Party in recent months.

When MORI last tested the image of the parties two months ago, 43 per cent picked out "divided" as a description fitting the Tories, compared with 25 per cent who said Labour was "divided". By contrast in September 1991, a few months before the 1992 election, only 14 per cent thought the Tories divided, compared with twice as many, 29 per cent, who thought Labour the divided party.

Other measures find that opposition to the European Union has been steadily rising. A MORI survey at the end of November found that, if a referendum on staying in the EU were held, Britain would vote 'yes', but only by 52 per cent to 48 per cent.

If there were a referendum on joining a single currency, 64 per cent said that they would vote against it and under a quarter would be in favour.

For most voters, Europe is probably not yet a single issue powerful enough to swing their vote, especially as none of the major party's policies is fully in line with the current mood.

But this month the Referendum Party reached 2 per cent in voting intentions for the first time, which may be a sign of a more general mobilisation of Euro-sceptical opinion.

☐ *The author is chairman of MORI.*

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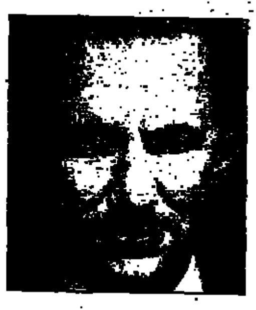

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 1996

Wickes seeks £53m and gives final warning to 13 staff

By Jason Nissé

WICKES, the DIY retailer that admitted it had overstated its profits for three years, has issued final warnings to 13 staff in its buying department. These come on top of the resignations of eight senior directors that followed the group's investigation into the scandal.

Announcing a £53.2 million rights issue to restructure the group's balance sheet, Bill Grimsey, who took over as chief executive after the resignation of Henry Sweetbaum, Wickes founder, said the warnings were supposed to be "corrective action".

Mr Grimsey said: "We drew a line where people were acting under instruction." He said the Serious Fraud Office was taking a similar view in its investigation and these "minnows" would be asked to give evidence in any potential trial rather than be the subject of any prosecution. Wickes has received the repayment of a £1.2 million bonus paid to Mr Sweetbaum, and Trefor Llewellyn, the former finance director, is also paying back £485,000 he received. An investigation for Wickes by Price Waterhouse, the accountants, and Linklaters & Paines, the solicitors, revealed that senior management was aware of accounting irregularities six months before shareholders.

Mr Grimsey said that Wickes had also received a number of expressions of interest from potential bidders, but no formal offers. He said the job was to restore shareholder value before any bid could be considered. Wickes has renegotiated 93 per cent of its controversial buying contracts, which involved suppliers paying an upfront fee in exchange for sales to Wickes.

Bill Hoskins, the new finance director, admitted that some of these deals involved repayments to the suppliers but that the group now knew how much it was paying for goods and so could manage its business accordingly.

Wickes also launched a one-for-one rights issue to raise £53.2 million to refinance its balance sheet. The shares are issued at 15p each, compared with a price of 67p when Wickes was suspended in June, but there will be an immediate one-for-ten consoldiation so the new shares will be priced at 150p.

The fund raising will leave Wickes with £37 million of debt. The group admitted that the investigations and restructuring after had cost Wickes £6.58 million.

These costs, along with other write-offs, losses at the US and European businesses, and general operating losses, meant that in the ten months to September 28 Wickes lost £52.7 million before tax. This compares with a restated loss of £279 million in 1995. Loss per share was 13.6p and there is no dividend.

The new management is predicting that the company should lose no more than £56 million for the whole of 1996. Mr Hoskins said that once all the corrective action, including selling the loss making overseas business, had taken place the group should break even and would then work to restore its profitability.

Pennington, page 25

CBI forecasts rate rise as inflation sticks

By Philip Bassett and Janet Bush

INFLATION was stable in November, having jumped sharply in October, but business leaders yesterday forecast that interest rates will have to rise before the general election to head off price pressures.

Headline retail price inflation stayed at October's 2.7 per cent rate, while the underlying rate, which the Government aims to get to 2.5 per cent or less, stuck at 3.3 per cent, the Office for National Statistics said.

Although the two main measures of inflation were exactly in line with City forecasts, economists were somewhat negative. They expressed disappointment that a sharp fall in industry's imports bill had not fed through to lower prices on the high street and suggested that Kenneth Clarke's aim of bringing underlying inflation down to its target range by the end of this parliament looks increasingly testing.

In spite of this, the Chancellor and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, left rates on hold when they met on Wednesday.

The Confederation of British Industry yesterday raised its growth forecast for the economy this year from 2 per cent to 2.4 per cent, because of rising incomes and larger than expected falls in unemployment. In their new forecast, CBI leaders said that headline inflation would end this year at around November's level but then rise to 3 per cent next year and to 3.3 per cent the year after, pushed up by stronger growth and consumer spending. The CBI said that underlying inflation would remain above the mid-point of the target range throughout the period.

The CBI said that its forecasts rested on the assumption of base rates rising by a further quarter point to 6.25 per cent in the first quarter of next year, with a further rise to 6.5 per cent expected in the second half.

Although CBI leaders made clear that they saw no need for an interest rate rise now, they accepted that "modest" upward moves in rates over the next year will be necessary to contain inflation.

They said: "With output continuing to grow strongly, and with inflationary pressures starting to edge up, in part due to the projected weakening in sterling next year, base rates are expected to be raised to 7 per cent in 1998."

Sterling's recent appreciation has produced industry's worst export order book for almost three years. The CBI's latest monthly trends inquiry, published yesterday, showed a deterioration in overall demand in December, with a sharp drop in export order books to the lowest level since February, 1994.

The CBI left its growth forecast for next year unchanged at 3.1 per cent and published its first estimate for growth in 1998, at 2.7 per cent. Both these figures are significantly below the Treasury's forecasts of 3.5 and 3 per cent, respectively.

The latest inflation figures showed higher prices for consumer goods such as clothing and footwear, which jumped by 1.1 per cent in the month, the highest rise for any November for more than 20 years. Household goods prices rose by 1 per cent in the month. These figures were highlighted by economists arguing that they provide evidence that consumer demand is now robust enough for retailers to widen their margins, even though factory gate prices are subdued.

Petrol prices were another item that put upward pressure on inflation, but this was balanced by cheaper food and electricity prices.

Separate figures from America showed a small 0.3 per cent rise in consumer prices in November, the same increase recorded in October. Together with news of a fall in retail sales in November, fears of higher US interest rates were allayed.

Joseph Wan, chief executive of Harvey Nichols, is looking at several sites for stores

Ab Fab profit at Harvey Nichols

By Keith Rodgers

HARVEY NICHOLS, the retail store immortalised by *Absolutely Fabulous*, beat expectations yesterday when it reported a 35 per cent increase in pre-tax profits.

The shares, already riding high from their 270p flotation price in June, climbed a further 8p to 352.5p.

Higher than expected gross profit margins and strong sales at the flagship Knightsbridge store contributed to the results. The company said its second store in Leeds was performing better than anticipated, adding that it had been forced to shut the doors on several occasions because of the volume of shoppers. Joseph Wan, chief executive, said the group was looking at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester and Newcastle as potential sites for stores. For the six months to September 28, sales grew 16 per cent to £49.2 million, while pre-tax profit climbed to £5.5 million. An interim dividend of 1.9p will be paid on 14 February.

Mr Wan confirmed that Dickson Concepts, the Hong Kong retailer that owns 50 per cent of Harvey Nichols, is undertaking due diligence of Barney's, the New York retailer.

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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	3990.7	(+8.2)
Yield	3.99%	
FTSE All share	1965.25	(+4.11)
Nikkei	20501.10	(-67.18)
New York:		
Dow Jones	6387.52	(-15.00)*
S&P Composite	738.73	(-2.00)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	$5\frac{1}{4}$%*	($5\frac{1}{4}$%)
Long Bond	$98\frac{11}{32}$*	($98\frac{13}{32}$)
Yield	6.63%*	(6.62%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	$6\frac{5}{16}$%	($6\frac{5}{16}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	$108\frac{19}{32}$	($109\frac{5}{32}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6575*	(1.6532)
London:		
$	1.6582	(1.6557)
DM	2.5601	(2.5518)
FFr	8.6610	(8.6390)
SFr	2.1781	(2.1740)
Yen	187.96	(186.85)
£ Index	93.1	(92.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5430*	(1.5379)
FFr	5.2170*	(5.1970)
SFr	1.3135*	(1.3095)
Yen	113.50*	(112.97)
$ Index	97.9	(97.8)

Tokyo close Yen 112.90

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb)	$21.85	($21.65)

GOLD

London close	$368.45	($369.25)

* denotes midday trading price

Right policy

About 200,000 British policyholders with London Life and AMP (UK) will receive shares in return for giving up membership rights of AMP, the Australian mutual that intends to float off on the market.
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Greenalls jobs

Greenalls, the pubs and hotel company, is to create about 1,000 jobs this year through a £175 million investment in its retail pub estate. Lord Daresbury, managing director, aims *to open about 230 outlets.*
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IBM to put $350m into new centre

From Eileen McCabe in Dublin

IBM, one of the world's leading information technology companies, is to invest $350 million in a new manufacturing and services centre in Dublin.

The centre will generate almost 3,000 jobs within the next five years, making it one of the biggest electronic projects ever secured by the Irish Republic's job creation authority, the Industrial Development Agency.

The first phase of the development on a 100-acre site at Mulhuddart to the west of the city, will include a manufacturing unit for memory storage disks. Later a customer support centre and a software manufacturing unit will be added.

The centre is the second major IBM investment in the Republic this year. In June the company announced it would set up its 24-hour, international, customer-support centre in Dublin, providing work for about 750 graduates.

Johnson & Johnson, the healthcare company, also said it plans to build a factory in Cork to make artificial hip joints, employing about 300 people.

PPI administrators taking Turkey to European court

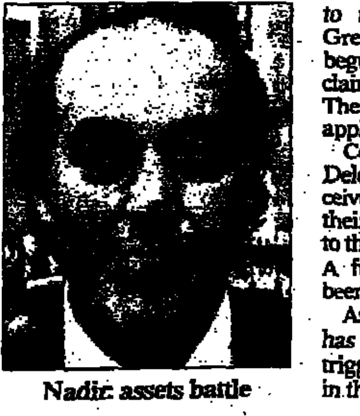
By Jon Ashworth

THE administrators of Polly Peck International (PPI), the company formerly run by Asil Nadir, are taking Turkey to the European Court of Human Rights.

Voyager, a PPI holding company registered in the Isle of Man, is claiming that its rights as a shareholder have been consistently violated by the Turkish courts in the six years since PPI collapsed.

The move underlines how difficult recovering PPI assets has become. *Chris Barlow*, of Coopers & Lybrand, lead administrator of PPI, said: "Given that this administration involves over 200 companies and has been one of the most complex ever, I am pleased with the progress. However, our work in Turkey has been persistently thwarted by the systematic non-co-operation of the courts there."

Disposals in Turkey could net up to $20 million. The administrators claim that PPI companies have been denied their rights as shareholders in various Turkish investments. They hope that the European court will compel the courts to re-hear the relevant cases, or insist on compensation.



Nadir: assets battle

The administrators have raised $10 million from asset sales in northern Cyprus, only to run into litigation from Greek Cypriots, who have begun a High Court action claiming a right to the money. The administrators are to apply for leave to appeal.

Coopers & Lybrand and Deloitte & Touche have received £27.5 million in fees for their work on PPI, according to the latest report to creditors. A further £22.6 million has been paid in professional fees.

Assets worth £470 million has been realised so far, triggering payments of 1.25p in the pound for PPI creditors.

Bookmakers rally to alternative lottery

By Fraser Nelson

BOOKMAKERS were yesterday preparing their defence against attempts by the National Lottery to stifle the launch of '49s', a rival lottery due to be broadcast to betting shops from Monday.

Ladbrokes, one of the bookmakers backing the venture, said it had secured firm assurances from its lawyers that Camelot, the organiser of the National Lottery, would be unable to pin down any legal objections to the new show.

A spokesman said: "The Lottery Act of 1993 forbids bookmakers from taking odds on the National Lottery itself. This clearly presupposes we can take bets on other lotteries, and on games where skill would not be involved.

"The launch of the National Lottery hit bookmakers very hard, and anything that can add incremetally to our income is good news. If 49s is a success, it stands to keep shops in business and save jobs."

Camelot repeated its claim that current gaming laws forbid bookmakers to take lottery-style bets on a game based on luck. "We think it could be a criminal offence to run this lottery," said a Camelot spokeswoman. "If the bookies want to change the law, they should do it through Parliament."

The event is being organised by Satellite Information Systems (SIS), which provides television racing coverage for bookmakers. Shops will be charged £5 per week and gamblers will be able to start with as little as 10p per punt for a maximum £100,000 jackpot.

Fat cats miss out on the breakfast cream

By Oliver August and Jon Ashworth

IT WAS every fat cat's dream — hovering butlers, champagne on tap, a purring Bentley waiting at the door. Sir Colin Marshall and his guests would have felt perfectly at home yesterday, when they arrived at the five-star Lanesborough Hotel in London for their "windfall" breakfast. Sadly not everyone was there to sample the treats.

Sir Colin Marshall, the BA chairman and CBI president, had invited the heads of privatised companies to extol the success of the Tory privatisations before a Labour government can burden them with a £5 billion windfall tax. A total of 80 invitations were sent out but only five utility heads attended. Nick Hood, the Wessex Water chairman, was alone in publicly declaring his support for Sir Colin's initiative.

Companies invited but not in attendance included: British Gas, British Telecom, British Aerospace, National Power, Hyder, PowerGen and Scottish Power. The majority of those present were fee-earning City advisers and lawyers. Sir Evelyn de Rothschild was joined by Peter Smith, of Coopers & Lybrand, and Geoffrey Howe, of Clifford Chance.

Sir Colin and his team tucked into a full traditional English breakfast — hardly the cost of a share option, at £16.50 per head. Sated, they rattled through the formal business before sauntering off to check their share options.

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Andersen wins $4bn IT deal

Andersen Consulting has won a joint bid for a $4 billion contract from Du Pont, the international chemical company, which is believed to be the world's largest outsourcing deal. It has teamed with CSC, an American computer consultancy, to run Du Pont's IT operations worldwide.

The four-year contract involves a mass transfer of staff to the two consultancies — 500 to Andersen and 2,600 to CSC. The deal is also the first of its kind in the chemical industry.

Aquarius value

Aquarius, which makes bathroom accessories and lampshades, will be valued at £34.2 million when it secures a full listing on the stock market next week. It is raising £8.8 million through placing 28 per cent of its shares with institutions, and is using the money to pay off debts.

Fuel import

Orimulsion, dubbed the world's dirtiest fuel, is to increase its presence in the UK only months after one generator abandoned its use. National Power yesterday won county council permission for a jetty to import the fuel to use at its Pembroke power station.

Cortecs test

Cortecs International, the pharmaceuticals company that specialises in oral vaccines and drug-delivery systems, yesterday signed an agreement with the Cancer Research Campaign for the development of diagnostic tests for nasopharyngeal cancer.

Pearl customers miss out as AMP plans to float

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE
IN SYDNEY

AMP, Australia's largest life assurance society, has unveiled plans to demutualise in a move that will see 2.3 million members receive shares worth an average of A$4,300 (£2,000) in return for giving up membership rights.

About 200,000 members in the UK who have life assurance policies with London Life and AMP (UK) will be eligible for shares under the demutualisation proposals, which will be put to a vote of members next year before a planned stock market listing in mid-1998. However, policyholders with Pearl Assurance in the UK, which is not mutual and has been owned directly by AMP since 1989, will not be eligible for the share allocation.

Ian Burgess, AMP chairman, said: "While acknowledging that AMP's current mutual structure worked well in the past, the board concluded that a different structure was both necessary and appropriate for the future. The board believes that a change to the corporate structure is in the members' best interests, and that such a change is necessary for AMP to take full advantage of new and emerging business opportunities."

AMP's proposed demutualisation comes hard on the heels of similar action by rival Colonial Mutual Life, which is poised to distribute A$1.3 billion worth of shares to its 750,000 members before a stock market float next year.

National Mutual, in which AXA, the French group, has a 51 per cent stake, became the first Australian life insurer to become a publicly listed company two months ago after it demutualised earlier this year.

Burgess said yesterday that AMP, which has members' capital estimated at A$8 billion to A$10 billion and total assets of about A$90 billion, will be listed on the Australian and New Zealand stock exchanges, with a London listing also being considered.

The number of shares allocated to each member will depend on size of policy, length of membership and whether the member's policy is participating or not. AMP, which serves more than five million customers in Australia, New Zealand, the UK and Asia, lifted profit from A$506 million in 1994 to A$1.9 billion in 1995.

The demutualisation plan was welcomed by Australia's financial community.

Scottish Hydro to boost drive south

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH Hydro-Electric, the electricity generator and supply company, is to consolidate its moves into England by buying out its joint partner in a power station near the Humber. Hydro is preferred bidder for the half-share in Keadby power station being sold by United Utilities. The deal is likely to be worth more than £200 million.

Cross-border generation and trading is controversial because the English generators say that the rules governing purchasing are unfair. PowerGen is seeking planning permission to build a power station at Gartcosh, near Glasgow, but has encountered local opposition.

Hydro-Electric, whose chief executive is Roger Young, is developing another large power station with British Gas and has several other joint ventures and wholly owned small stations in England.

The company is also in talks with a series of potential partners for electricity supply when the domestic market opens to competition in 1998. John Gray, finance director, said: "Alliances are the thing of the future, and, with a number of ownership changes in regional companies, the possibilities are likely to grow rather than decline."

Hydro-Electric said that its pre-tax profits for the half year to September 30, slipped by 0.6 per cent, to £61.3 million, from £61.7 million. The interim dividend, payable on March 19, is being increased by 11.2 per cent, to 5.28p a share, payable from earnings per share of 12.37p (11.85p).

Roger Young unveiling Scottish Hydro results yesterday

Levitt faces jail if DTI wins action over ban

BY JASON NISSÉ

ROGER LEVITT, who received just 180 hours community service after pleading guilty to fraudulent trading three years ago, is facing up to two years' imprisonment for allegedly breaching his seven-year ban for acting as a director.

The case is due to be heard at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court in London on Monday, but it was not certain whether Levitt would appear, as he has moved to New York and is living in a luxury apartment in Manhattan.

Levitt is accused of acting as a "shadow director" of International Boxing Corporation, which manages fighters. If so, this may breach the Company Directors Disqualification Act because he was banned from being a director of a company for seven years from November 1993.

Michael Jacobs, another IBC director, is accused of aiding and abetting Levitt, and three other senior IBC executives, Mark Segal, Cecil Halpin and John Wiffen, have been asked to provide explanations or statements about Levitt's involvement.

Levitt's ban was imposed after he pleaded guilty to fraudulent trading after the Serious Fraud Office investigation into the collapse of his life assurance empire in 1990. This left hundreds of people nursing large losses.

Should the case be tried by magistrates, the maximum sentence would be six months in prison. However, if it is sent to the High Court, the maximum jail term is two years.

Levitt's solicitor, John Perry, of Goldkorn Davies Matthais, said Levitt was in the US and not contactable.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Birmingham aims for new year quote

BIRMINGHAM CITY is aiming to join the Alternative Investment Market in February in a float valuing the football club at up to £25 million. Birmingham, controlled by David Sullivan and the Gold brothers through Sport Newspapers, hopes to raise £5 million.

Between one-quarter and one-third of the increased share capital will be made available, with Mr Sullivan and David and Ralph Gold keeping control. Other staff — including Karren Brady, managing director, and Trevor Francis, team manager, will be offered share option packages. Supporters will need £500 minimum to invest. Birmingham is expected to announce profits, before transfer fees, of around £1 million on a £7 million turnover for the year to the end of August.

SFA fines Danish bank

THE Securities and Futures Authority has fined Den Danske Bank £15,000 and ordered it to pay £5,000 costs after Ole Rasmussen, a trader in its private banking division, made unauthorised discretionary deals and undertook unauthorised personal account dealing two years ago. Mr Rasmussen, 42, left DDB in 1994 and has returned to Denmark. The SFA fined him £5,000, with £4,000 costs. DDB no longer has a private banking division in London.

Irish inflation rises

THE Republic of Ireland's annual inflation rate rose to 1.9 per cent in the quarter to mid-November from 1.5 per cent in the third quarter, according to figures released yesterday by the Central Statistics Office. The unexpected rise follows a midweek warning from Ireland's Central Bank that the Government should be more vigilant about inflationary pressures in the run-up to European monetary union. The consumer price index for the quarter jumped 0.5 per cent.

Long-term care inquiry

INSURANCE companies, charities and health providers are being urged to give their opinions on how long-term care should be sold in the future. The Treasury yesterday published a consultative paper on the issue, and said that long-term care products, which are currently unregulated, might be brought under the Financial Services Act of 1986, which covers other investments. The Treasury said that consultation might take several months.

Countryside in black

COUNTRYSIDE PROPERTIES, the housebuilder operating in Greater London and the South East, returned to profit in the year to September 30, earning £3.1 million before tax, compared with losses of £10.6 million in the previous year. Earnings were 3.4p a share, against losses of 12.7p previously. The total dividend falls to 2.25p a share from 2.8p, with a final 1.5p (1.39p). The shares rose 5½p to 72p. Turnover improved to £160.3 million from £148.2 million.

Kingspan in £26m buy

KINGSPAN GROUP, the building materials company based in the Republic of Ireland, is acquiring Ward Building Systems, a subsidiary of Rugby, for £25.92 million. The purchase is to be part-funded via a one-for-six rights issue at Ir440p a share, raising Ir£20.4 million. Rugby is also selling ZND Bouwstaal, a German subsidiary, to management for £2.3 million and said it was seeking a buyer for Rom, its UK steel reinforcement business.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	18.83	17.33
Belgium Fr	55.24	50.94
Canada $	2.346	2.186
Cyprus Cyp£	0.801	0.746
Denmark Kr	10.28	9.48
Finland Mkk	8.17	7.52
France Fr	8.98	8.33
Germany Dm	2.69	2.48
Greece Dr	418	393
Hong Kong $	13.37	12.37
Iceland	120	100
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel Shk	5.70	5.05
Italy Lira	2622	2467
Japan Yen	200.10	184.10
Malta	0.633	0.578
Netherlds Gld	2.998	2.766
New Zealand $	2.50	2.28
Norway Kr	11.16	10.36
Portugal Esc	267.00	248.50
S Africa Rd	8.28	7.48
Spain Pta	221.00	208.00
Sweden Kr	11.85	11.05
Switzerland Fr	2.29	2.11
Turkey Lira	180050	168050
USA $	1.745	1.615

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Walt Disney president 'set to leave'

MICHAEL Ovitz is poised to resign as president of Walt Disney after just one year in the job, sources close to Disney said yesterday (Richard Thomson writes).

Disney has so far refused to officially comment on Mr Ovitz's plans. However, persistent rumours that his friend and boss, Michael Eisner, the Disney chairman, has been unhappy with Mr Ovitz's performance have been only weakly denied by Mr Eisner. Mr Ovitz has upset many inside Disney with his aggressive management style and has antagonised a number of powerful Disney executives who have made his position politically more difficult within the corporation.

The Disney president would be entitled to a pay-off of about $10 million if the company asked him to leave. If he left of his own accord, however, he would almost certainly sacrifice tens of millions of dollars in stock options, since Disney's shares have soared by $20 to about $72 since he joined.

Mr Ovitz, once one of Hollywood's most powerful agents, has been tipped for the job as head of Sony Corporation's US operations. Mr Ovitz knows Noboyuki Idei, Sony's chairman, well and held meetings with him last week. However, yesterday Peter Wilkes, a Sony spokesman, said: "There are no plans to hire Mr Ovitz for a position at the company."

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☐ Vultures are ready to buy DIY group on the cheap ☐ Euro in battle for currency power ☐ DTI picks up SFO slack

Getting on your Wickes

☐ BYE BYE old Wickes. Hello new Wickes. A solid sensible retailer with a great name in "heavy end" do-it-yourself which has cast off the problems of the past, has a highly motivated staff, a good relationship with suppliers and a sensible balance sheet. Well, that is what the new Wickes management would have you believe. And up to a point they are right.

Bill Grimsey, the new chief executive, is so solid and roll-up-your-sleeves, that it would be no surprise to learn he had actually changed his name from Sebastian Delancey to be more at one with the shop managers. He is keen to emphasise that if Wickes is going to restore shareholder value after the disaster, as he quite rightly describes it, then this is going to have to be a bottom up recovery not a top down. The "boys and girls" in 122 Wickes stores plus the buyers, many of whom must be glad not to be clinging on to P45s, have to work their socks off to turn the ship round. Mr Grimsey and his team, which includes another "call a spade a spade" character in Bill Hoskins, finance director, need to deliver a solid platform which includes getting the City off Wickes's back and the company's name out of the papers.

The first stage of this should be achieved by raising £53.2 million from a one-for-one rights issue (never mind that the shares are both split and consolidated at the same time, that is only designed to confuse you into thinking that shareholder value has been created immediately by turning 15p shares into ones priced at 150p). Wickes will end this process with net debt of about £37 million and a trading performance which, after all the exceptional losses, overseas businesses and other complications are taken away, will show the group breaking even. The target is to make a 5 per cent margin on Wickes's £400 million of sales. If that is achieved then a market value of about £100 million, which Wickes will have when its shares come back from suspension, will look far too cheap.

To achieve this Mr Grimsey has decided to draw a line under the past. Deals have been struck with the likes of Harry Sweetbaum, the former chairman, to win a modest repayment of bonuses, but there will be no litigation against former executives. Eight senior people have been sacked, but a further dozen, who said they were only following orders, have been let off with a reprimand and are still beavering away at Wickes's head office.

In the end, though, it does not look as if new Wickes will have much of a life. The vultures are already circling to buy the business on the cheap and ride the recovery in the DIY market with a cleaned-up company which has put its terrible past behind it.

Today Europe, tomorrow the world

☐ DIPLOMATIC skill seems to be turning the European currency more French by the day. That means softer, more inclusive and more geo-political.

Germany has had to compromise heavily on the punitive, automatic stability pact rules it wanted, after it was manoeuvred into becoming a UK-style minority of one. Only smaller members with few friends have much to fear from the tough-sounding deficit limits. And even Finland's constitutional court found the pact would not be binding.

PENNINGTON

Money-market traders, at least, are becoming convinced that the entry rules laid down at Maastricht will be interpreted with a solemn Gallic blind eye, in turn earning more debts of gratitude to France. An indicator devised by JP Morgan, based on changes in bond yield spreads in the swaps market, suggests a near 70 per cent chance that Italy will join the euro and near 80 per cent for Spain. The markets may be wrong but the inclusive view is gaining ground.

EMU's top official in Frankfurt is voicing interventionist sentiments about the foreign exchanges once confined to French contributions to economic summits. In an interview in *Le Monde*, Alexandre Lamfalussy, Belgian president of the European Monetary Institute, suggests that, once the euro is established, Europe should debate with America on the dollar's regrettable weakness and use its influence to press for changes in US monetary and fiscal policies.

Once the euro becomes a soundly based alternative reserve currency, he argues, America will no longer be able to ignore the dollar's external value. If investors and traders have a choice, prolonged dollar weakness would make long-term dollar interest rates high.

Either US short-term rates should be higher or America's budget deficit should be shrinking yet faster. In this new balance of currency power, Europe would have as much influence over American economic policy as decisions taken in Washington have traditionally had over here. And to think, there are still people who think that plucky little Britain can resist the continental tide.

Executive action

☐ NEVER mind that the Serious Fraud Office would find it difficult prosecuting Dick Turpin for theft, the Department of Trade and Industry is picking up the slack. Having increased the number of directors it has had disqualified by 70 per cent this year, to more than 700, it is now pursuing those who might dare to attempt to go back into business with the vigour of a sniffer dog at Bogota airport.

Stephen Hinchliffe, John Gunn and Terry Venables are among those fighting disqualification proceedings at the moment. Peter Goldie, Mr Gunn's former sidekick, recently gave up his fight, and Tony Berry, who used to share a boardroom with Mr Venables, successfully saw off the DTI. Both Roger Levitt and Eddie Ashby, also a business associate of Mr Venables, are facing jail for allegedly breaching their disqualification orders.

The punishment, though, has not been among the most effective in the past. The DTI's action has often been cumbersome and unfocused. But a few high profile jailings might give the process some teeth. If the DTI moved a little more swiftly it might also lose its nickname, the Department of Timidity and Inaction, and fraudulent trading might actually be a crime with a punishment.

Windfall for Labour

☐ SIR Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways, is playing a dangerous game. By calling all the former privatised companies together so they can moan about a windfall tax, he has reminded people that BA is a former state enterprise. And while no one previously thought there should be a windfall tax on BA, Labour's front bench might just have had a good idea . . .

Greenalls pours £175m into pub expansion

By Alasdair Murray

GREENALLS GROUP, the pubs and hotel company, is to create about 1,000 jobs this year through a £175 million investment programme in its retail pub estate.

Lord Daresbury, managing director, said that Greenalls is aiming to open about 230 new outlets in the year, concentrating on its branded outlets, such as Henry's Table, Millers Kitchen and Keeper's Choice.

He said that Christmas bookings have been strong and that the company is confident that it will continue to make progress this year. Greenalls, which owns a total of 2,360 pubs, generates as much as 20 per cent of turnover during the holiday period.

Lord Daresbury's comments came as the company unveiled a 48 per cent rise in profits, before tax and exceptionals, to £149 million in the year to September 27. Underlying profits, excluding effects of the Boddington acquisition and exceptionals, rose by 11 per cent, to £111 million. Overall turnover rose by 51 per cent, to £1.1 billion.

Exceptional costs totalled £31 million relating mainly to redundancy and reorganisation costs at Boddington, which was acquired a year ago for £666 million. Greenalls said that the integration had been completed ahead of schedule and that the company had achieved cost savings of £18 million.

Shares in Greenalls fell 10½p to 591½p, with the City disappointed by the company's failure to confirm the sale of the De Vere hotel group. Greenalls said that it would sell some of the 20-strong chain, which includes the Grand in Brighton and the Belfry in Warwickshire, but did not place a timetable on the disposals.

Daresbury: profits up

Greenalls Inns, the managed pub division, increased operating profits by 50 per cent, to £79 million. Drinks sales increased by 7.8 per cent in the 920-strong estate, with food sales rising 12 per cent.

The hotel and leisure division increased profits by 40 per cent, to £55 million. Premier Lodge, which owns 46 lodges, increased revenue per available room by 9.1 per cent. Occupancy rose from 72 per cent to 73 per cent.

The De Vere hotel chain improved revenue per available room by 11 per cent and occupancy levels rose to 74.4 per cent from 72.6 per cent. Greenalls said it would concentrate on improving the Belfry hotel and golf course with a view to hosting future Ryder Cup competitions.

Gearing rose to 66 per cent. Greenalls said that it would be cut to less than 50 per cent after conversion of loan stock.

The total dividend rises 8.5 per cent, to 15.4p. A 9.18p final dividend is due on January 28.

Tempus, page 26

Pifco pulls back from Kenwood

THE battle between Kenwood, the household appliances group, and its rebel shareholders took a further turn yesterday when Pifco, its smaller rival, ruled out making an offer (Keith Rodgers writes).

Pifco, which has twice been rebuffed by Kenwood after first approaching it about a merger in July, said it would be unable to make an offer unless Kenwood disclosed detailed financial information. Kenwood has refused, saying it would be "irresponsible" to negotiate with a competitor unless a firm and credible offer had been put forward.

Pifco's bid was expected to be supported by UK Active Value Fund, which holds 9 per cent of Kenwood. Michael Webber, Pifco chairman, said: "It's a question for shareholders as a whole, not just Active Value, to put pressure on Kenwood."

Gagging order fought by London Electricity chiefs

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

LONDON ELECTRICITY is fighting a Takeover Panel gagging order amid speculation about possible links with Northern Electric, the company facing a hostile US bid.

The capital's electricity supplier, which yesterday issued half-year figures, said that it was barred from commenting on business other than a brief results statement because the Panel had declared it to be in an offer period more than three weeks ago.

London's pre-tax profits fell to £69.3 million in the half to September 30, from £84.5 million, with the impact of the distribution price review. The interim dividend, due on January 31, rises 9.2 per cent, to 14.3p, although earnings per share fell to 31.4p, from 32.8p. The shares rose 11½p, to 651½p.

London said that it was pressing the Panel to lift the offer alert, imposed after both London and Entergy, a US company, said that they had broken off talks about a possible Entergy takeover.

A Panel spokesman said that a bid was still possible; he said that offer periods were declared over once a potential offeror had said "definitively" that it did not intend to bid. He declined to say whether Entergy had been asked for a more specific statement.

London's silence added to City confusion over the strength of Northern's plans for a supply business merger. Sir Bob Reid, chairman, in the results statement, said: "We remain committed to seeking profitable and mutually beneficial alliances in supply, as a means of improving long-term returns."

Tempus, page 26

Xenova listing 'falls short'

XENOVA, the biopharmaceuticals company, completed its flotation yesterday, almost a month behind schedule, raising £22.6 million in new funds (Eric Reguly writes).

The placing, which values Xenova at about £50 million, fell short of the £25 million it expected to raise. The company, which is already listed on the Nasdaq market in the US, said the volatile stock markets, combined with tepid interest in the biotechnology sector, prevented it from reaching its goal.

Xenova placed 9.6 million new ordinary shares at 215p apiece, based on the $3.50 a share Nasdaq trading price. The placing raises Xenova's total cash reserves to about £28 million, enough to fund its research and development for two years or more.

Tempus, page 26

Have you calculated the real cost of airline loyalty schemes to your company?

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The Financial Times 7/10/96 (from MORI survey)

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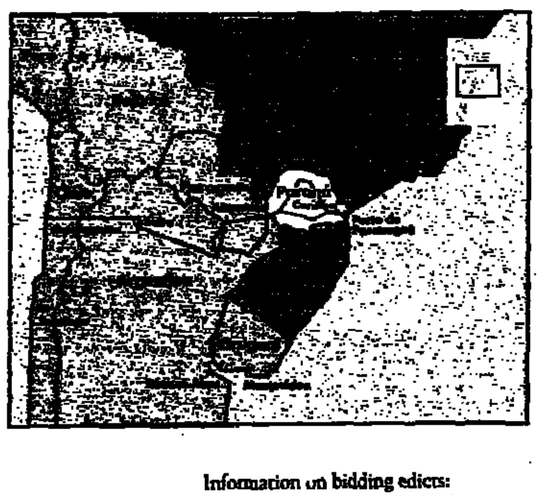
INTERNATIONAL BIDDING.

PARANÁ. A GREAT STATE IN SEARCH OF PARTNERS.

Located in southern Brazil, neighbour to the largest consumer center in the country and doorway to the MERCOSUL, the State of Paraná is transforming its structure into one of the world's largest business opportunities. And, with a view to this, it is in search of Brazilian and international partners.



FERROESTE
The Government of the State of Paraná is looking for companies interested in the operation of FERROESTE, and the continental integration of the railway. Connected to the Atlantic Ocean through the Port of Paranaguá and projected into the continent through Paraguay, Argentina and Chile, FERROESTE is also linked to the Centro Oeste Region (Mid-West) of Brazil, with a large potential for freight.
Up for bidding.

PORT OF PARANAGUÁ
The Government of the State of Paraná is granting the private iniciative the rights to build and explore commercially a container terminal with a capacity for 250,000 units in the Port of Paranaguá, one of Brazil's largest seaports and one of the most important in the MERCOSUL, which is at present undergoing a thorough process of modernization.
Up for bidding.

INTEGRATION RING
The Government of the State of Paraná is calling national and foreign companies interested in the restauration, duplication and maintenance of the roadways which make up the Integration Ring.
Over 2000 km of roadways to be commercially explored by private iniciative.
International bidding under way.

Information on bidding edicts:
Secretaria de Estado dos Transportes - Av. Iguaçu, 420 - 2º andar - Sala 06
Grupo de Concessões - Curitiba - Paraná - CEP 80230-020
Telefone (041) 322 7080 extension 2223/2244 - Fax (041) 322 9521 / 322 4086
e-mail: govpr@lepus.celepar.br

GOVERNO DO ESTADO
PARANÁ

مكتبة الاعلام

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Shares in retreat again as troubles beset Wall Street

SHARE prices saw early gains sharply reduced while gilts suffered a late setback as Wall Street faced up to the prospect of further turbulence.

The FT-SE 100 index climbed sharply in early trading, taking heart from a partial recovery by the Dow Jones industrial average overnight. At one stage it was sporting a rise of 27 points, but saw its lead whittled away steadily as New York's early 33-point lead was wiped out. The FT-SE 100 closed 8.2 points higher at 3,990.70 in thin trading that saw less than 700 million shares change hands.

Investors fear further volatility in the weeks ahead and continue to view nervously the gilt market where prices again lost ground in late trading. This was in spite of the latest economic numbers showing no change in the inflation rate.

Pilkington fell 3½p at 144p after losing its place earlier this week as a constituent of the FT-SE 100. The same fate also befell **Courtaulds**, which lost 8½p at 373p.

London Electricity climbed 11½p to 651½p as the group attempted to play down speculation that it was about to merge its supply business with that of rival **Northern Electric**, 1p better at 602½p. Northern is currently fending off fighting an unwanted offer from CE Electric, the American power company.

The speculation gathered pace after London cancelled an analysts' meeting due to take place after the figures. It also refused to comment on the link-up with Northern. London said talks with **Thames Water**, 1½p down at 572½p, on areas of possible collaboration were continuing.

Last year London saw profits drop from £84.5 million to £69.3 million, which it blamed on the impact of two price reviews. News of a profits decline last year left **Scottish Hydro** 2½p lower at 314½p.

Speculative buying hoisted **Dalgety**, the Spillers and pet foods group, 10½p to 339p. Once again there is talk that Nestlé, the Swiss food group, wants to make a full bid, or at least put in an offer for its pet food operations. Dalgety has a yield but has been overshadowed by the BSE crisis. The shares have fallen from around 444p since March. In a thin market, a total of 661,871 shares had traded by the close.

Higher BT charges for mobile phone operators raised prices

Also in the food sector, cash rich **Associated British Foods** jumped 18½p to 459p.

Glaxo Wellcome shrugged off a sizeable profits downgrading by HSBC James Capel, the broker, to end the session 6p firmer at 944p, after briefly touching 920p. Forecasts for the current year have been cut by almost £200 million to £2.93 billion and for 1997 by £100 million to £3.06 billion. It has also switched its recommendation for the shares from hold to sell.

Merrill Lynch, the broker, also takes a similar view of Glaxo Wellcome, urging its clients to switch into either **Zeneca**, 4p lower at £16.17½, or **SmithKline Beecham**, 3½p firmer at 812½p.

Caradon put on 3½p at 235p with a helping hand from Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker. It follows the disposal of its non-core activities for around £200 million, which wiped out debt and left the group with cash in the bank. The shares have fallen from a peak of 264p and Laing says they look cheap.

The prospect of a substantial boost to revenues lifted mobile telephone operators **Orange** 9½p to 178½p and **Cable and Wireless** 4p to 452p. It follows the move to raise charges on calls made on BT lines to both Orange and One-2-One users from 16¾p to 29p sometime in the new year.

The higher charges are already in place for **Vodafone**, 2p firmer at 248½p, and **Cellnet**, owned jointly by BT, 1p dearer at 387p, and **Securicor**, 2p firmer at 262p.

It had been feared that unless these discrepancies were brought into line, a price war would develop in the fiercely competitive mobile phone market. This has helped to depress the price of Orange, which has fallen from a peak of 253p to a low of 169p since floating in March.

Profit-taking left **Greenalls**, the pubs and hotels group, 10½p lower at 591½p after the group reported figures much in line with City forecasts. Profits were boosted by a strong contribution from its Boddingtons acquisition.

Kenwood Appliances, the household products group, slipped 1p to 214½p after it emerged that bid talks with **Pifco**, its smaller rival, 3½p down at 269p, had broken down. Pifco said it was not in a position to make a move until it had more detailed financial information about Kenwood's affairs which had not been forthcoming.

A strong rise in both profits and sales and news of further store openings left **Harvey Nichols** sporting a rise of 8p at 352½p.

Kier Group made an encouraging start to trading after a placing at 166p. The shares opened at 172½p and rapidly climbed to close at 184½p, its best of the day. A total of 615,032 shares changed hands.

ML Laboratories hardened ½p to 202½p after moving from the USM to a full listing. It was one of the first pharmaceutical-biotech companies to seek a public listing, in 1987.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices came off sharply in late trading, reflecting modest sell-offs of both German bunds and US Treasury bonds. Brokers said recent volatility had made investors in London a touch nervous and in such thin conditions price movements were exaggerated. The inflation figures were largely discounted.

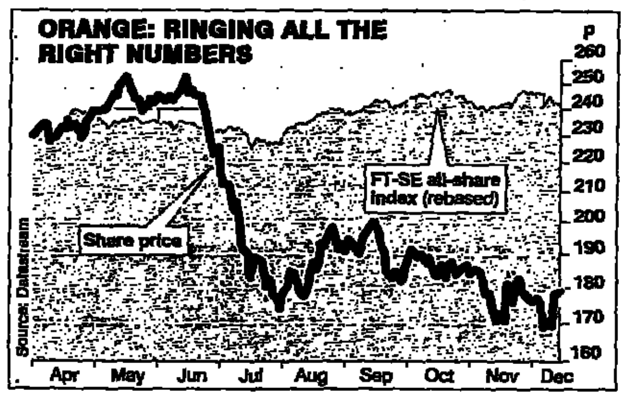
In futures the March series of the long gilt fell £¹¹⁄₁₆ to £108¹⁹⁄₃₂ as a total of 47,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury 8 per cent tumbled £²⁷⁄₃₂ to £101²⁵⁄₃₂, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was seven ticks off at £102¹¹⁄₁₆.

☐ **NEW YORK:** On Wall Street profit-taking ate into an early rally in the technology sector and strong gains in the bond market withered. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 15.00 points at 6,387.52.

Fund manager Henderson's vulnerability to takeover has increased. Four investment trusts, together owning 16.2 per cent, have ended an agreement to sell only to each other. They are Witan, Electric and General, Lowland Investment and Greenfriar Investment. Henderson shares eased 3½p to £11.27¼.

ORANGE: RINGING ALL THE RIGHT NUMBERS



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 6387.52 (-15.00)
S&P Composite 738.73 (-2.00)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20501.20 (-67.18)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 13053.28 (-136.32)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 611.41 (-0.85)

Sydney:
AO 2339.6 (-19.7)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2847.08 (+0.63)

Singapore:
Straits 2182.55 (-9.90)

Brussels:
General 10325.02 (-40.92)

Paris:
CAC-40 2212.11 (-1.17)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 827.90 (+2.30)

London:
FT 30 2755.7 (+4.0)
FT 100 3990.7 (+8.2)
FTSE Mid 250 4379.5 (+12.7)
FTSE 350 1983.1 (+4.4)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 1855.68 (+1.63)
FT All-Share 1955.25 (+4.11)
FT Non Financials 2035.27 (+4.36)
FT Fixed Interest 116.53 (+0.12)
FT Govt Secs 93.73 (-0.35)
Bargains 31789
SEAQ Volume 693.0m
USM (Datastrm) 190.05 (-0.33)
US$ 1.6580 (+0.0021)
German Mark 2.5598 (+0.0062)
Exchange Index 93.1 (+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.3182
£:SDR 1.4180
RPI 153.9 Nov (2.7%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX 153.7 Nov (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Access Plus (90)	100½	...
Advanced Power Cm	80	+ ½
Archer Dedicated	100	...
Britt Allcroft	146½	+ 1
Cadcentre	229½	+ 2
Car Group	168½	+ 3
Charterhouse (5)	6½	...
Cons Coal 8 1/2pc Pf	99½	...
Dawn Til Dusk	121½	...
Druid Grp	314½	...
Exeter Inv	97½	...
Finsbury Intl	615	+ 2
First Russian Frts C	577½	...
Future Int Tele (115)	125	...
Goshawk Insce	122½	...
Grantchester Hldgs	129	...
Kern River	50½	...
Kier Group	184½	...
Oliver Ashworth	131½	+ 1
Parkwood Holdings	76½	+ 1
Provend (125)	126½	...
Recycling Servs	98½	...
SDX Business Sys	172½	...
Scot Highland Htls	138	...
Second St David Inc	110½	...
Second St David Res	9½	...
Second St David Z Pf	184½	...
Semple Cochrane	215	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Allied Coll n/p (118)	9	- ½
Aukett n/p (5)	1½	...
Biocompatibles n/p	242½	+ 37½
Bodycote Intl n/p	110	+ 1½
INVESCO Uts n/p	41½	- 3½
More Group n/p (600)	9½	...
Regalian Props n/p (30)	½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Real Time 242p (+17p)
British Gas 233p (+14½p)
French Conn 286½p (+13p)
AB Food 459p (+18½p)
Dalgety 339p (+10½p)
Hozelock 429p (+12½p)

FALLS:
Jones Stroud 395p (-30p)
Evans Halshaw 221p (-11½p)
Pet City 430p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 27

TEMPUS

Fashionable London

LONDON ELECTRICITY is in demand. Rarely a day goes by without news of another breathless energy group courting its favours. Only weeks ago Entergy of the US admitted that it had made overtures to London. Now the industry gossip suggests that London and Northern Electric will merge their supply businesses. Added to that, London and Thames Water have been collaborating on roadwork and other areas of mutual benefit.

London's popularity can be attributed to its status as one of only three independent regional electricity companies not yet in receipt of a bid. With a shortage of targets, potential bidders must look at London, but it holds equal attraction as a potential partner. As competition develops in the household power market, suppliers need to focus their efforts. Margins in domestic electricity and gas supply will be slender, a spur to co-operation between suppliers seeking lower costs. There is little reason for utilities to bear separately the entire cost of meter reading, billing and servicing households when such operations can be undertaken in a joint venture. Further links will follow between generators and regional electricity companies based on long-term energy contracts.

In the absence of full-scale mergers, the regulator should tolerate an era of semi-consolidation. If London acts cute — encouraging partnerships without succumbing to the charms of one suitor — it can strengthen its position in a rapidly changing energy industry. Other cards up its sleeve include private electricity networks, such as airports and the Channel Tunnel. Hardly a recipe for riches, but not bad for a low-growth industry.

Greenalls

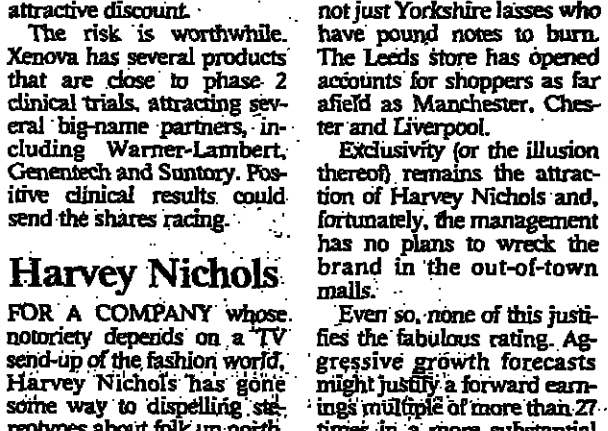
CONFUSION over the future of De Vere hotels has ended the slow recovery in Greenalls' shares. The company had hinted that it would dump the 20-strong chain — as part of a £200 million disposal programme — but yesterday sent out mixed signals over the timing and size of a sale.

A clear statement from the company would allow the focus to shift back to the core businesses. Greenalls strength is its vast pub estate which provides economies of scale. A geographic bias to the North is working to Greenalls advantage because, unlike the Southeast, the north has yet to be saturated with new pub brands and gimmicks. Greenalls can actually welcome the arrival of rival chains on its patch. New openings, especially in previously moribund City Centres sites, help to increase custom in pubs generally.

Fears that Greenalls will suffer from increased beer prices after the takeover by Bass of Carlsberg-Tetley are probably exaggerated. The largest independent beer purchaser in the country, Greenalls has enough clout to play the major brewers off against one another, when its supply agreements come up for renewal in 1998. Analysts reckons there could be a further £10 million in cost savings to come from the Boddington acquisition.

Greenalls deserves a better rating than a prospective price earnings ratio of just over 11 times.

ROOM AT THE INN



Xenova

THE FLOTATION of Xenova was touch and go. The company, whose speciality is extracting medicines from natural sources such as fungi and bacteria, had a hard time finding investors. Already nervous about the shaky markets, they were less than willing to commit money to a shaky industry. The biotech sector peaked in the spring and has since been in the doldrums but Xenova still managed to raise £22.6 million in new money.

Xenova extracted a rabbit from its hat by accepting a low price for the shares and coming to the wise conclusion that extending the offer timetable would not necessarily lure more investors. It expected initially to raise £25 million but at the placing price of 215p the shares look a reasonable bet. The flotation funds combined with the £6.5 million of cash on hand raises its cash resources to about £28 million, or more than half of Xenova's market capitalisation. In other words an investor can get access to Xenova's technology at an attractive discount.

The risk is worthwhile. Xenova has several products that are close to phase 2 clinical trials, attracting several big-name partners, including Warner-Lambert, Genentech and Suntory. Positive clinical results could send the shares racing.

Harvey Nichols

FOR A COMPANY whose notoriety depends on a TV send-up of the fashion world, Harvey Nichols has gone some way to dispelling stereotypes about folk up north.

Early results indicate that the company is confounding those who predicted that the Knightsbridge store would lose its cachet in a lay-by somewhere near the Watford Gap. In fact, sales in the newly opened Leeds store are looking good; customers have been literally knocking on a door closed because of the sheer volume of shoppers inside. Also reassuring is the size of its catchment area: it's not just Yorkshire lasses who have pound notes to burn. The Leeds store has opened accounts for shoppers as far afield as Manchester, Chester and Liverpool.

Exclusivity (or the illusion thereof) remains the attraction of Harvey Nichols and, fortunately, the management has no plans to wreck the brand in the out-of-town malls.

Even so, none of this justifies the fabulous rating. Aggressive growth forecasts might justify a forward earnings multiple of more than 27 times in a more substantial company. But, in the end, this is a smallish business depending on the discretionary spending of the very wealthy. As Harvey Nichols reaches out for more customers that band of surplus cash will look even thinner.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	879-871	Mar	1001-1000
Mar	933-931	May	1012-1008
May	951-950	Jul	1025-1022
Jul	966-965	Sep	1037-1032
Sep	983-981		
Dec	992-991	Volume:	2258

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1330-1327	Sep	1220-1215
Mar	1273-1272	Nov	1220-1200
May	1236-1233	Jan	1228-1200
Jul	1224-1220	Volume:	3805

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	297.9-96.5
Spot: 302.5		Dec	300.3-97.0
Mar	299.4-99.3	Mar	303.3-98.0
May	299.0-98.7	May	306.3-99.0
Aug	300.2-00.0	Volume:	968

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 11

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	85.85	132.91	108.63
(+/-)	-7.19	-3.60	-0.24
Eng/Wales:	85.85	134.34	106.01
(+/-)	-7.19	-2.82	-2.83
(%)	-15.0	+6.0	-19.0
Scotland:	unq	128.64	120.55
(+/-)	--	-5.96	+11.48
(%)	--	-4.0	+24.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	22.55	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Jan)	22.35	-0.15
Brent 15 day (Feb)	21.85	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	23.50	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	23.05	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	213 (+2)	216p (+2)
Gasoil EEC	213 (+2)	214p (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	114 (+1)	116 (+1)
Naphtha	218 (-2)	223 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jan	205.25-05.50	Apr	187.00-88.00
Feb	201.00-01.25	May	181.75-82.25
Mar	194.25-94.75		Vol: 21527

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	22.38-22.40	Apr	20.88 BUY
Feb	21.90-21.93	May	20.38 BUY
Mar	21.40-21.43		Vol: 30738

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	95.85	Jan	95.25
Mar	98.25	Mar	96.50
May	100.00	May	97.75
Jul	101.15	Sep	93.25
Sep	93.75	Nov	95.25
Volume:	830	Volume:	85

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	52.0
Apr	62.0	63.0
May	unq	66.0
Volume: 12		

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Jan 81.00-81.50

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 96	1505	1500	1505
Jan 97	1458	1445	1455
Feb 97	1420	1410	1418
Apr 97	1500	1490	1498
Vol: 622 lots		Open Interest: 3790	

Index 1490 +13

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2262.0-2267.0	3mth: 2150.0-2151.0	Vol: 1503625
Lead ($/tonne)	682.50-683.00	687.00-687.50	272075
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1031.0-1032.0	1056.0-1057.0	547175
Tin ($/tonne)	5790.0-5800.0	5835.0-5840.0	36495
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1491.5-1492.0	1522.0-1522.5	1839625
Nickel ($/tonne)	6555.0-6560.0	6660.0-6670.0	76560

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom	420	16	30	34½	7½	15	22½
(*424)	460	4	13	17	36	39½	47
ASDA	120	4½	7½	10½	3	6	6
(*121)	130	1	4	6	9½	11½	12
Boots	600	15	31	40½	12½	20½	29½
(*603)	650	2	11	18½	50	52½	60
Br Airways	550	37½	54½	62	4	13½	20
(*581)	600	10	27	35	29½	34½	44
BP	650	29½	43	52	12½	26	31½
(*659½)	700	9	21½	29½	43	53½	59
Br Steel	160	10	16	19	1½	4½	9½
(*167½)	180	1½	6½	9	13	15	20½
C & W	420	36½	47½	56½	3	8½	15½
(*451½)	460	11½	24	34½	16	23½	32
CU	600	49½	65½	67	3	20	21
(*643)	650	21	40½	39½	21	45	45½
ICI	750	41½	56½	64	5	22½	29
(*783)	800	12	28	38	25½	48½	54½
Land Sec	700	29½	45½	53½	3	10	20
(*722)	750	6	17½	25	29	34½	40½
M & S	460	28	40½	46	2	8	12½
(*483)	500	6	18½	24	20	25½	31½
Nat West	650	32½	43½	54½	8	20½	33
(*671)	700	8	20	31½	34	59	62
Safeway plc	360	25½	37	42	3	9	16
(*381)	390	8	19½	25½	15½	22	30½
Sainsbury	330	26	35	39	1	4½	10½
(*357½)	360	6	16½	21	11	15½	24
Shell	950	37½	58	65	7	26	39½
(*978½)	1000	11	30½	38	30½	52	59½
Smkl Bch	800	34½	57	72½	17	35	42½
(*812½)	850	13½	34½	49	45	62	69
Storehse	300	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*unq)	330	0	—	—	0	—	—
Trafalgar	50	0	—	—	0	—	—
(*unq)	60	0	—	—	0	—	—
Zeneca	1600	58½	101½	127	28	68½	85
(*1617½)	1700	21	56	81½	91	124½	140½
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
BAT Ind	460	39½	51	56½	5½	18	22½
(*494½)	500	14	23½	36	18½	37	43
Vodafone	240	14	22½	27½	5	8½	13½
(*248½)	260	4	13	17½	15½	18½	23½
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	420	20	29	36	11	17½	22
(*434)	460	4	12	18½	38½	42	45½
Ladbroke	200	20	23½	27	2½	6½	8
(*216)	220	7½	12½	15½	9½	15½	17½
Utd Bisc	200	10½	14	17	7	13	15
(*200)	220	3½	6½	9½	20½	27	28½

December 12, 1996 Tot: 44508 Call: 22074 Put: 22434 FTSE Call: 3642 Put: 4798
*Underlying security price.

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	26½	39½	47½	3	9½	15
(*481)	500	5	17½	26	21	28	33½
Thames W.	550	30	46	54½	4	13½	27
(*572½)	600	5½	20	28	29	37½	54½
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BTR	240	19½	24½	28½	3½	10	11½
(*251)	260	9	13½	19	12	20	22
Br Aero	1100	56½	77	98	19½	35½	44
(*1125½)	1150	29½	51	71	42½	59½	67½
Br Telcm	360	29½	34½	39½	3½	10	17½
(*387)	390	10½	17½	23½	19	23	32
Cadbury	460	37	42½	48	3	10½	15
(*488½)	500	13	19	27	18	30	35
Guinness	420	25	31½	36	9	13½	19½
(*433)	460	6½	12½	17½	31½	39½	42½
GEC	360	17	25½	29½	9½	13	19½
(*367½)	390	5	11½	15½	28½	30½	37
Hanson	119	5½	—	—	6	—	—
(*119)	136	1	—	—	18½	—	—
LASMO	200	23½	28½	33	3	5½	7
(*218½)	220	12	17	24½	11	13	15
LucasVarity	220	17½	23	28	6	9½	13½
(*229½)	240	7½	13½	18	15	19½	24
Pilkngtn	140	9	14	16	3½	6½	8½
(*143½)	160	1½	5½	7½	17	18½	20½
Prudential	460	27	35½	41	10	20½	25
(*473½)	500	9½	16½	23	32	43½	48
Redland	330	30	39	38	4½	11	14½
(*351½)	360	12	20½	21½	17	26	29½
R-Royce	240	15	21	25	8½	13	16
(*244)	260	6½	11½	16½	20	24	27
Tesco	330	26½	31½	37½	6½	12½	16
(*345½)	360	9	15½	21	21½	28	31½
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
unq	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*3989½)

	3850	3900	3950	4000	4050	4100
Calls						
Dec	142	97	59½	25	8½	2
Jan	168	139½	96	65	40	22½
Feb	198	159½	126	94	69	48
Mar	206½	171	137	109	81½	61½
Jun	—	226	—	168	—	120
Puts						
Dec	7	12	21½	44	81½	130
Jan	24½	36	52	74	102	138
Feb	44½	55	72	91½	118	150
Mar	60½	75½	92	113½	137½	169
Jun	—	115½	—	156½	—	207½

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Dec	Apr	Jul	Dec	Apr	Jul
Abby Nat	700	15	42	50	7	35	42
(*708½)	750	0½	22	28½	42	67	72
Amstrad	140	10½	—	—	1	—	—
(*149½)	160	1	—	—	11½	—	—
Barclays	1000	31	61½	77	3½	34	44
(*1026)	1050	5½	35	52½	25½	61	70
Nat Pwr	450	9½	26½	—	5	20	—
(*450½)	500	0	9½	16½	49½	52½	65
	Series	Jan	Apr	Jul	Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo W	900	57	77½	91½	7	27½	34
(*943)	950	26½	48	64½	24½	49½	57
HSBC	1200	64	94½	110½	13½	47	62½
(*1245)	1250	33½	66	90	33½	71	86½
Reuter	650	54½	70	81½	2	14	20½
(*698½)	700	19½	38½	52½	16	34	41½
Royal & Sun	394	39½	47½	—	1½	10½	—
(*433)	431	13½	28	—	12	28	—
	Series	Dec	Feb	May	Dec	Feb	May
Blue Circ	330	29½	35½	41½	0	2	8½
(*359)	360	4	15½	22	4½	11½	21
	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
Kingfshr	600	31	43	50½	15	29	34½
(*609½)	650	10	20	28½	45	58	63
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Unilever	1350	14	52	62½	7½	29½	48½
(*1352½)	1400	2	28	38½	47½	58	77
	Series	Dec	Mar	Jun	Dec	Mar	Jun
Br Gas	220	10½	20	24	1	8	13½
(*229½)	240	1	10	15	11½	17	23½
Dixons	550	11½	33	46½	6	22	29
(*556½)	600	0½	14½	24	43½	51½	58
EMI Group	1250	39½	75	106½	4	30½	43½
(*1285½)	1300	8½	49	80	21½	54½	67
Tarmac	90	2	7½	9	1	4	5½
(*91)	100	0	4½	5	9	10	12
Hillsdwn	180	8½	14½	17	0½	4	9
(*188)	200	0	4½	7	12	14½	21
Lonrho	110	9½	13	15	0	2½	4½
(*119½)	120	2	7	10	2	7	9
Sears	90	3½	—	—	0½	—	—
(*93)	100	1	—	—	7	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	43½	—	—	2	—	—
(*1539½)	1600	1	—	—	60½	—	—
Tomkins	240	8	16½	22	1	9	11
(*248)	260	0½	7½	13	14	20	22
Lloyds TSB	390	26	35	49½	0½	11	15½
(*415½)	420	3	17	25	9	25	30½
Scot Pwr	323	14	21½	—	0½	10	—
(*336½)	353	0	8	—	16½	27	—

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FTSE 100 Previous open interest: 66571	Dec 96 Mar 97	3989.0 4008.0	4014.0 4029.0	3968.0 3986.5	3982.0 3998.0	16177 3085
FTSE 250 Previous open interest: 5626	Dec 96 Mar 97				4398.5 4448.5	0 0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 471734	Dec 96 Mar 97 Jun 97	93.60 93.43 93.15	93.64 93.46 93.17	93.59 93.40 93.12	93.63 93.43 93.15	10154 13671 12276
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97 Jun 97				99.45 99.34	0 0
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1139323	Dec 96 Mar 97	96.75 96.84	96.77 96.87	96.75 96.84	96.76 96.85	16512 22993
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 143594	Dec 96 Mar 97	110-02 109-13	110-02 109-16	109-10 108-14	109-10 108-19	2710 45687
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 97 Jun 97	124.89 123.75	125.20 123.75	124.89 123.62	125.02 123.62	2087 465
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 234639	Mar 97 Jun 97	99.96	100.20	99.63	99.85 98.96	149691 0
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 32742	Dec 96 Mar 97	95.81 95.89	95.82 95.91	95.80 95.87	95.80 95.88	395 941
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 89221	Dec 96 Mar 97	97.90 98.01	97.94 98.11	97.87 97.99	97.93 98.11	4164 11111
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 82541	Mar 97 Jun 97	128.00 127.05	128.20 127.10	127.11 127.05	127.33 126.93	40862 1026

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low 5½ Week fixed: 5¹⁵⁄₁₆
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6¹⁄₁₆ : 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5¹⁵⁄₁₆ ; 3 mth: 6.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5³¹⁄₃₂-5²⁹⁄₃₂	6¹⁄₁₆-5¹⁵⁄₁₆	6⅛-6¹⁄₁₆	6⁵⁄₁₆-6³⁄₁₆	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⁵⁄₃₂-6³⁄₃₂	6⅛-6³⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₆₄-6⁹⁄₆₄	6¼-6³⁄₁₆	6²⁵⁄₃₂-6²³⁄₃₂
Interbank:	6⅛-6¹⁄₃₂	6⅛-6³⁄₃₂	6¹¹⁄₆₄-6⁹⁄₆₄	6¼-6³⁄₁₆	6¹⁷⁄₃₂-6⁷⁄₁₆

Overnight: open 5¾, close 5¼.

Local Authority Deps:	6	n/a	6⅛	6¼	6⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6¹⁄₃₂	6⁵⁄₃₂-6⅛	6⁵⁄₃₂-6³⁄₃₂	6⁵⁄₁₆-6¼	6¹⁵⁄₃₂-6⅜
Dollar CDs:	5.48	n/a	5.42	5.48	5.59
Building Society CDs:	6¹⁄₁₆-6¹⁄₃₂	6¹⁄₁₆-6¹⁄₃₂	6⅛-6¹⁄₁₆	6¹¹⁄₃₂-6⁹⁄₃₂	6¹⁹⁄₃₂-6¹⁷⁄₃₂

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4¹⁵⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⁹⁄₁₆	5¾-5⅝	5-4
Deutschemark:	3¼-2⅞	3⁵⁄₁₆-3⅛	3¼-3⅛	3⅜-3¼	3¼-2¾
French Franc:	3½-3¼	3⅝-3½	3½-3⅜	3½-3⅜	3½-2¾
Swiss Franc:	1¹⁵⁄₁₆-1⁹⁄₁₆	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2⅛-2	2-1
Yen:	⅝-⅜	⅝-½	½-⅜	⅝-½	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $369.00-369.30 Close: $368.20-368.70 High: $368.50-369.00
Low: $367.00-367.50 AM: $368.60 PM: $368.60

Krugerrand: $367.50-370.50 (£221.75-223.75)

Platinum: $368.50 (£223.20) Silver: $4.82 (£2.915) Palladium: $118.75 (£71.95)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8578-2.8727	2.8698-2.8727	⅝-½pr	2⅛-2pr
Brussels	52.500-54.826	52.742-54.826	16-11pr	46-39pr
Copenhagen	9.7580-9.8063	9.7983-9.8063	2½-1½pr	6½-5½pr
Dublin	0.9943-0.9985	0.9966-0.9980	5-1pr	15-9pr
Frankfurt	2.5478-2.5612	2.5590-2.5612	⅝-½pr	2-1½pr
Lisbon	257.07-258.82	258.53-258.82	½-⅛ds	⅝-⅛ds
Madrid	214.47-215.70	215.51-215.70	4-14ds	1-17ds
Milan	2517.4-2534.9	2532.4-2534.9	25-40ds	48-70ds
Montreal	2.2401-2.2517	2.2498-2.2517	0.61-0.56pr	1.24-1.15pr
New York	1.6506-1.6596	1.6578-1.6586	0.095-0.075pr	0.353-0.322pr
Oslo	10.665-10.727	10.716-10.727	⅝-¼pr	⅞-⅝pr
Paris	8.6110-8.6639	8.6580-8.6639	2⅛-1½pr	6¼-5¼pr
Stockholm	11.246-11.302	11.282-11.302	½-¼pr	½-¼pr
Tokyo	186.59-188.08	187.84-188.08	⅞-⅝pr	2¾-2½pr
Vienna	17.924-18.023	18.007-18.023	⅝-⅜pr	1¾-1¼pr
Zurich	2.1706-2.1794	2.1767-2.1794	⅝-½pr	2¼-2pr

Source: Extel

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2618-1.2626
Austria	10.87-10.88
Belgium (Com)	31.84-31.88
Canada	1.3568-1.3573
Denmark	5.9175-5.9195
France	5.2275-5.2285
Germany	1.5450-1.5460
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7360
Ireland	1.6577-1.6575
Italy	1528.40-1529.90
Japan	113.40-113.45
Malaysia	2.5224-2.5234
Netherlands	1.7332-1.7342
Norway	6.4748-6.4785
Portugal	156.15-156.20
Singapore	1.3984-1.3994
Spain	130.14-130.17
Sweden	6.8096-6.8171
Switzerland	1.3175-1.3180

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6522-1.6549
Australia dollar	2.0848-2.0872
Bahrain dinar	0.6155-0.6275
Brazil real*	1.7187-1.7232
China yuan	13.511-13.811
Cyprus pound	0.7650-0.7750
Finland markka	7.5625-7.6785
Greece drachma	398.50-405.5
Hong Kong dollar	12.7813-12.7899
India rupee	58.63-59.59
Indonesia rupiah	3845.0-3913.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4890-0.4990
Malaysia ringgit	4.1688-4.1729
New Zealand dollar	2.3624-2.3661
Pakistan rupee	65.55 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9400-6.0640
Singapore dollar	2.3107-2.3129
S Africa rand (com)	7.6730-7.7750
U A E dirham	5.9925-6.1165

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,000	Lloyds TSB	7,300
ASDA Gp	9,800	LucasVarity	3,300
Abbey Ntl	4,100	Marks Spr	2,300
Allied Dom	1,900	NatWst Bk	7,500
Argos	232	Nat Grid	2,700
AB Foods	1,600	Nat Power	2,100
BAA	1,200	Next	357
BAT Inds	17,300	Orange	26,200
BOC	999	P & O	903
BP	6,400	Pearson	4,100
BSkyB	4,200	Pilkington	3,700
BTR	12,100	PowerGen	424
BT	8,200	Prudential	5,400
Bk of Scot	2,700	RMC	192
Barclays	2,400	RTZ	2,100
Bass	1,600	Railtrack	2,100
Blue Circle	1,600	Rank Group	1,500
Boots	972	Reckitt Col	2,100
BAe	2,800	Redland	1,700
BA	2,800	Reed Intl	2,200
Brit Gas	12,000	Rentokil Int	4,800
Brit Steel	1,700	Reuters	3,600
Burmah Cstl	369	Rolls Royce	3,000
Burton	1,500	Royal & Sun	1,700
Cable Wire	2,400	Royal Bk Sct	1,200
Cadbury	2,800	Safeway	1,900
Carlton Cms	2,400	Sainsbury	1,800
Cm Union	2,500	Schroders	313
Courtaulds	1,400	Scot & New	825
Dixons	1,400	Scot Power	842
EMI	854	Svrn Trent	1,900
Enterpr Oil	2,400	Shell Trans	5,300
GKN	749	Siebe	1,100
GRE	3,000	SmKl Bch	4,200
GUS	2,000	Smith Nph	3,500
Gen Acc	660	Smiths Inds	418
Gen Elec	4,400	Std Chartd	4,700
Glaxo Well	7,900	TI Gp	280
Granada	1,200	Tate & Lyle	945
Grand Met	4,500	Tesco	5,800
Guinness	3,300	Thames W	518
HSBC	4,800	Tomkins	3,700
Hanson	4,800	Unilever	820
ICI	705	Utd Utilities	935
Imp Tob	5,500	Utd News	1,700
Kingfisher	1,200	Vodafone	12,200
LASMO	1,200	Whitbread	1,900
Ladbroke	2,000	Wlms Hld	1,300
Land Secs	1,300	Wolseley	1,000
Legal & Gn	6,600	Zeneca	928

	Dec 12 midday	Dec 11 close
AMP Inc	38¼	37¾
AMR Corp	90½	91¼
ASA	37	37¼
AT & T	38¼	38½
Abbott Labs	51½	52¼
Advanced Micro	27¼	28¼
Aetna Life	73½	74½
Ahmanson (HF)	32¼	32¼
Air Prod & Chem	69¼	68¾
AirTouch Comm	26¼	25¾
Alberto-Culver B	48¼	48¼
Albertson's	35¼	35¼
Alcan Alumnm	34¼	34½
Alco Standard	51	50¾
Allied Signal	68¾	68¾
Alum Co of Am	63¼	63¾
Amax Gold Inc	6¼	6¼
Amerada Hess	56	56
Amer Brands	48¼	48¼
Amer El Power	40¼	40¼
Amer Express	54¼	53¼
Amer Genl Corp	39¾	40¼
Amer Home Pr	61½	62¼
Amer Intl	109¼	109¼
Amer Stores	40¼	40
Amer Standard	37¼	37¼
Ameritech	55¼	56
Amoco	76¼	76¾
Anheuser-Busch	41¼	41¼
Apple Computer	23⅞	24
Archer Daniels	22	21¼
Armco	4¼	4¼
Armstrng Wrld	70¼	70¼
Asarco	25¼	25¼
Atl Richfield	134¼	132¼
Auto Data Pro	41½	41½
Avery Dennison	71	71¼
Avon Products	57	56¾
Baker Hughes	34½	34¼
Baltim Gas & El	26¼	26¼
Banc One	43¾	44½
BankAmerica	96¾	97¼
Bank of NY	33¼	33¼
Bankers Tr NY	86¼	86¼
Barnett Banks	39¼	40¼
Bausch & Lomb	36½	36¾
Baxter Intl	41½	42
Bectn Dicknsn	43	42¾
Bell Atlantic	61	59¾
Bell Industries	21½	20¾
BellSouth	38¼	38¼
Black & Decker	30½	31½
Block (H&R)	30¼	30¾
Boeing	95¾	95¾
Boise Cascade	32	32¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	110¼	110¼
Browning Ferris	26¼	27
Brunswick	24¼	24¼
Burlington Nthn	86¼	87¼
CMS Energy Corp	32	32
CNA Financial	105¾	105¾
CPC Intl	80	79¾
CSX	45½	45¼
Campbell Soup	80¾	81½
Can Pacific	25½	25¾
Carolina Pwr	35¾	35¾
Caterpillar	76½	77
Central & SW	25¾	25¾
Champion Intl	42¾	42¾
Chase Manhat	88¼	88¾
Chevron Corp	62¾	62¾
Chrysler	34¾	35
Chubb Corp	53¾	52¾
Cigna Corp	136¼	135¾
Citicorp	100¾	101
Clorox	100¾	100¾
Coastal Corp	47¼	47¼
Coca Cola	48¾	49¼
Coca Cola Ent	43¼	43¼
Colgate-Palmolive	90¼	90¼
Columbia Gas	64¼	63¾
ColumbiaHCA	39¾	39¾
Compaq Comp	83¾	84¼
Comp Ass Intl	63¼	63
Conagra	50¾	50¾
Conrail	96¾	97¼
Cons Edison	28¾	28¾
Cons Nat Gas	55¾	54¾
Cooper Inds	39¾	40¾
Corestates	51½	51¼
Corning Inc	45	44¾
Crown Cork	51½	50¾
Dana Corp	31¼	31
Dayton Hudson	39¼	39¼
Deere	42¾	42¾
Delta Air Lines	75¼	75¾
Deluxe Corp	30¼	30¾
Digital Equip	38¾	39¼
Dillard Dept St	29¾	29¾
Disney (Walt)	71¾	72¼
Dominion Res	38	37¾
Donelley (RR)	32	31¾
Dover Corp	51½	51¼
Dow Chemical	81½	81¼
Dow Jones	33¼	33¼
Dresser	30¾	31
Duke Power	47¼	43¾
Dun & Bradstreet	22¾	22¾
Du Pont	92¾	94¼
Eastman Chem	56¼	56¾

	Dec 12 midday	Dec 11 close
Eastman Kodak	81½	80¾
Eaton Corp	68¾	68¾
Edison Intl	19¾	19¾
Elect Data Sys	46¼	46¼
Emerson Elec	96¾	97¼
Engelhard Corp	18¾	19
Enron Corp	43¾	44¼
Entergy	27¼	27¼
Ethyl Corp	9	9¼
Exxon	94½	94¾
FMC Corp	72½	72¼
FPL Group	43¾	44
Federal Express	42¼	42¾
Fed Nat Mtge	38¾	38
First Bk Sys	69¾	70¼
First Union Rlty	11¼	11¼
Fleet Finl Grp	51¼	52¼
Fluor Corp	64¾	64¾
Ford Motor	32¾	33¼
GTE Corp	43¼	43¼
Gannett	72½	73¼
Gap Inc Del	30¼	30¼
Gencorp	18¼	18¼
Gen Dynamics	69¾	69¾
Gen Electric	98¼	97
Gen Mills	62¾	63¼
Gen Motors	57¼	57¼
Gen Reinsurance	160¼	160¾
Gen Signal	42	42¾
Genuine Parts	44¼	44¼
Georgia Pac	73¼	73¾
Gillette	71¾	71
Glaxo Welc ADR	31¼	30¾
Goodrich (BF)	40	40
Goodyear Tire	49¾	49¾
Grt Atl Pac Tea	31¼	31
Great West Fin	30	29¾
Halliburton	57¼	58¼
Harcourt General	51¼	51¼
Heinz (HJ)	35¾	36
Hercules	46¼	46¾
Hershey Foods	45¼	45¼
Hewlett Packard	53¼	53¾
Hilton Hotels	27½	28
Home Depot	50¼	51¼
Homestake Mng	14¼	14¼
Honeywell	68¾	68¾
Household Intl	91	90¾
Houston Inds	21½	21¼
Humana	19¼	19¼
ITT Corp	41½	42
Illinois Tool	79	79¾
Illinova	26¾	26¾
INCO	33¼	33¼
Ingersoll Rand	46¼	45¾
Inland Steel	18¾	18¾
Intel Corp	138¾	136¾
IBM	156¾	156¼
Intl Flav & Fr	45¼	45¼
Intl Paper	40¾	40¾
James River Va	33¼	33¼
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	51½	51¼
Kellogg	65¾	65¼
Kerr-McGee	69¾	69¾
Kimberly-Clark	95½	95
Kmart	10¾	10¾
Knight-Ridder	39¼	39¼
Lilly (Eli)	75¼	75¾
Limited Inc	18¾	18¾
Lincoln Nat	50¾	51
Litton	45¼	45¼
Liz Claiborne	40¾	40¾
Lockheed Martin	88¾	88¾
Louisiana Pac	21¼	21¼
MCI Comm	31¼	31¼
Marriott Intl	53¼	54
Marsh & McLnn	108¾	109¾
Masco Corp	35	35¼
May Dept St	46¾	47¼
Maytag Corp	19¾	19¾
McDonalds	45¾	46¼
McDonnell D	50¾	50¾
McGraw Hill	45¾	45¾
Mead Corp	57¾	57¾
Medtronic	62¾	63¾
Mellon Bk	71¼	71¼
Merck Inc	78¾	79¾
Merrill Lynch	79	77¾
Microsoft	82⅞	82¾
Minnesota Mine	82½	83½
Mobil Corp	119¾	119¾
Monsanto	39¾	39¾
Morgan JP	95¾	95¾
Motorola Inc	54	53¾
Natl Semi	27¼	26¾
Natl Service Ind	34¾	34¾
Navistar Inc	9¼	9¼
NY Times A	38	38¼
Newmont Mng	44¾	44¼
Niag Mohawk	9¼	9¼
Nike B	55	54¼
NL Industries	10¼	10¼
Noram Energy	15¼	15¼
Nordstrom	40¾	40¾
Norfolk Sthrn	87¾	87¾
Nthn State Pwr	46	46¼
Norwest Corp	43¾	43¾
Nynex Corp	45¾	45¾
Occidental Pet	22¾	22¾
Ohio Edison	22¼	22¼

	Dec 12 midday	Dec 11 close
Oracle	48¼	48
Oryx Energy Co	20¾	21¼
Overseas Ship	17¼	16¾
Owens Corning	40¾	41
PHH Corp	43¾	43¾
PPG Industries	58	58
PNC Bank	37¾	38
PP&L Res	22¾	23
Paccar Inc	72¼	71¾
Pacificorp	20¾	20¾
Pac Enterprises	29¾	29¾
Pac Gas & Elec	23¾	23¾
Pac Telesis	35¾	35¾
Pall Corp	26¼	26
Parker Hannifin	41	41¾
Peco Energy	25¼	25¼
Penney (JC)	50¾	50¾
Pennzoil	55¼	55
Pepsico	29¾	29¾
Pfizer	82¾	83¼
Pharm & Upjhn	37¾	38
Phelps Dodge	69	69¾
Philip Morris	116	118¼
Phillips Pet	42¼	42¾
Pitney Bowes	57¼	57¾
Polaroid	41¼	41¼
PriceCostco	23¼	23¼
Procter & Gmbl	107¼	106¾
Providian	53¾	53¾
Pub Serv E & G	27¼	27¼
Quaker Oats	36¼	36¼
Ralston Purina	74¼	74¼
Raychem Corp	82¾	84¼
Raytheon	46¾	47¼
Reebok Intl	44	43¾
Reynolds Metals	57¾	58¾
Rockwell Intl	64	64
Rohm & Haas	79¾	79¾
Royal Dutch	165¾	163¼
Rubbermaid	23¾	24¼
SBC Comms	50¼	49¾
Safeco Corp	39¼	39¼
St Paul's Cos	58¾	59
Salomon Inc	45	45¼
Sara Lee Corp	36¼	36¾
Schering Plough	63¾	63¾
Schlumberger	99¾	98¾
Seagram	39¾	40
Sears Roebuck	46¼	46¼
Shell Trans	97¼	96
Sherwin Wilms	54¼	54¾
Skyline Corp	25¾	25¾
Snap-On-Tools	35¾	36
Southern Co	21½	21½
Sprint Corp	38¾	38¾
Stanley Works	28	28¾
Sun Company	24¾	24¾
Sun Microsys	31	30¾
Suntrust	48¼	48¾
Supervalu	28¾	28¾
Sysco Corp	33¼	33¾
TRW Inc	47¼	48
TCC Inds	1¼	1¼
Tandem Comp	14¼	14¼
Tandy Corp	42¾	42¾
Temple Inland	52¼	52¾
Tenneco	45¾	51¼
Texaco	98	98
Texas Inst	66¼	67
Texas Utilities	40¾	40¾
Textron	92	92¾
Time Warner	39¼	39¾
Times-Mirror A	51½	51¼
Timken	45¼	46¼
Torchmark	51¼	51¾
Toys R Us	31¼	31¾
Transamerica	79	79¾
Travelers	42¾	43
Tribune	80¾	81¼
Tyco Intl	51¾	52
UST Inc	33¾	33¾
UAL	64	64¾
US Inds	31½	31¼
US West Comm	31¼	31¼
USX Marathon	24¼	24¾
Unicom	27	26¾
Unilever NV	164¾	165¾
Union Camp	49¾	49¾
Union Carbide	42¾	42¾
Union Pacific	57¾	57¾
Unisys Corp	7¼	7¼
USAIR Group	24¼	24¾
USF&G Corp	20¾	20
US Life	31½	31¼
United Tech	68	68¾
Unocal Corp	39¾	39¾
VF Corp	66¾	66¾
WMX Tech	35¼	35¾
Wal-Mart Stores	24¼	24¾
Warner-Lambert	76¼	75¾
Wells Fargo	266¾	268
Westinghouse El	17¾	18
Weyerhaeuser	46¾	47
Whirlpool	46¾	47¾
Whitman	22¼	22¼
Winn Dixie	32	32¾
Woolworth	23¼	23¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	57	56¾
Xerox	51¼	51¼
Yellow Corp	14¼	14¼

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Acas teamwork — a little late

ACAS, the Government's industrial dispute-settling service, has just published a worthy tome called *Teamwork: Success Through People*. Odd to have just published it, given that it is dated September.

Since that time, the conciliators of Acas have been wrestling with a particularly difficult, strike-ridden dispute, between the Royal Mail and its main union, the Communication Workers, over the vexed question of ... er, teamworking. So it was felt that it might be a touch more diplomatic to delay publication.

Clean sweep

THE rescue of Sir Ranulph Fiennes from his Antarctic walk could have proved embarrassing for James Dyson, founder of the eponymous vacuum cleaner company. Dyson was backing Sir Ranulph in his quest, and had brought out a special edition of a vacuum cleaner called the Dyson Antarctic. But Mr Dyson claims that the main reason that he was backing Sir Ranulph was to raise money for Breakthrough, the breast cancer charity. True to his word, Dyson remains on track, and is to present a £1.44 million cheque to the charity before Christmas.

Party time

BLOOMBERG, the financial news provider, is offering its services free to both the Conservative and Labour party in the election run-up. Stephen Lock, Blairite managing director of Ludgate Communications, and brainchild of the scheme, suggested the idea to Labour HQ. "When banks or fund managers make a wrong comment, the party needs to be able to rebut it," he says.

Light work

A FIRST for Clifford Chance who hosted a Hanukka party this week. Geoffrey Howe admitted he was a little perplexed when he, a Christian, was asked to make the welcome speech.

"However, when it was pointed out that President Clinton was lighting the menorah at the White House, it seemed only right that the managing partner of Clifford Chance should be doing the same thing, although I am not sure I want the analogy with President Clinton to go much further than that."

A legal 'yes'?

IF the rumours are true, Cameron Markby Hewitt and McKenna have tied the knot at last. After much flirting and many a false start, I am told that the legal firms have merged. Tight-lipped Christopher Powell-Smith, senior partner at McKenna, said: "I am not confirming or denying anything."

MANY thanks to Hill & Knowlton, the public relations arm of Martin Sorrell's WPP, which is extending the season of giving by including five spare Christmas cards with its official greetings card. Its legend says: "A compelling message can be delivered in many forms." Not that many. There were only four envelopes.

MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Europe would do well to ape American economic policy

Pragmatism in macroeconomic management is better than relying on arbitrary rules

Alan Greenspan, left, taking over from Paul Volcker as Fed chairman in 1987

Economists and investors these days are divided into implacably hostile factions. These two warring camps are reminiscent of the Big-Endians and Little-Endians in *Gullliver's Travels*. They both agree on one thing: that the American economy is unstable and threatens to destabilise the world economy. Beyond that, the two factions are perpetually at war and their battle causes much of the present wild volatility in financial markets the world over.

One faction, the Inflationists, believes that economic growth in America will speed up next year. This will push inflation out of the present 2 to 3 per cent range to 3.5 per cent or higher. The Federal Reserve will have to raise interest rates by a point or so to slow the economy and bring inflation back under control. The other camp, the Deflationists, believes the contrary: the American economy will slow down. This will undermine investment and turn economic insecurity into a political issue once again. The Fed will have to lower interest rates by a point or so to prevent an increase in unemployment.

Why should anyone care very much whether the Inflationists or Deflationists are right? Both reach the same ultimate conclusion, just as the Lilliputians all ate up their eggs. Whether by raising rates a bit or lowering them slightly, the Fed will probably keep inflation, growth and unemployment near enough to their present levels for the next few years. Experience suggests that the Fed will be able to continue its careful balancing act between inflation and unemployment until wage inflation starts to accelerate sharply, or there is some external shock such as a war.

Why, then, are the markets in such a frenzy about American policy? And why are Fed officials apparently worried, too? Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, apparently thought long and hard last week before he issued his famous warning about the "irrational exuberance" of financial markets — a description that is actually more applicable to the overheated bond markets in Japan and Europe than to share prices in the US. Mr Greenspan seems to be worried that financial euphoria might limit the Fed's future room for manoeuvre.

As I explained on this page on Tuesday, Mr Greenspan seems to be siding with the Deflationists at present. His main concern is the possibility that an interest rate cut may be needed in the winter, but that such an easing could launch bond and stock prices into the stratosphere, creating the small but significant risk of a Japanese-style financial bubble and slump. But the Fed is even-handed in its anxieties. If the Inflationists turn out to be right, Mr Greenspan has to consider their worries.

Stronger economic conditions next year could call for a small rise in interest rates, but given the present wild mood in many markets, even a small move could have disproportionate and unpredictable results. If the markets fell suddenly, consumer and business confidence could conceivably be undermined. Worse, there could be a panic among the foreign investors who have been financing the US trade deficit by buying Treasury bonds. The dollar could then fall sharply, and while this would do no great harm to America it would be a disaster for Europe and Japan.

From the Fed's point of view, therefore, it is clearly atractive to try to blow the speculative froth off the markets and prepare investors for all contingencies — leaving the Fed free to raise interest rates or lower them, as conditions require. This seems an eminently sensible approach both to economic policy and to the management of market expectations. Why then have so many commentators seen Mr Greenspan's warning as the death knell not only for the bull market, but also for the long period of full employment and low inflation which seemed on course to run until the end of the decade?

In my opinion, the outbreak of pessimism has less to do with the dangerous condition of the US economy or the supposedly speculative level of share prices than it does with the social psychology of millenarian religious cults. The way the Fed has actively fine-tuned the American economy, avoiding the perils of both inflation and deflation, has been an affront to puritan morality as well as monetarist laisser faire ideology.

Throughout this decade Europe and Japan have suffered mass unemployment and stagnation, but Americans have had an easy, even enjoyable, ride. Yet it is America that saves too little, consumes too much and buys more than it sells abroad. Surely this cannot be right. A nemesis must be in store.

On this point, as on so many others, there is an interesting convergence between the ideological puritans of the far left, who know that modern capitalism is doomed by its arrogance and harshness, and the ideological puritans of the far right, who believe that modern capitalism is doomed by its pampering gentleness and lack of confidence. Both ideological extremes have a millenarian quality. In every minor financial or economic setback they see a vision of divine retribution. The avenging angels of finance will sweep away the unrighteous and leave a purified world for those who follow the true path (these could be either the Hong Kong Chinese or the German trade unions, depending on the specific millenarian's ideological bent).

Such prophets of doom had their hour of glory during the period of global economic and social crisis from 1968 to 1982. But since then they have been exasperated by Alan Greenspan, and his predecessor at the Fed, Paul Volcker — the two Fed chairmen have successfully steered the American economy between the twin perils of inflation and depression. Again and again — in the Third World debt crisis of 1982, the property and banking crash of 1983, the stock market meltdown of 1987, the leveraged buyout boom of 1989 and the dollar collapse of 1995 — the apocalyptics thought that they heard the last trumpet. But somehow the American Sodom always escaped chastisement.

Why is it that the great reckoning has kept being postponed? Partly because the "fatal flaws" of underinvestment, overconsumption and foreign borrowing are actually nothing of the kind. America has the highest level of capital employed per worker and its rate of profitable investment, taking into account intangibles such as advertising, software development and academic research, exceeds comparable figures for Germany and Japan. The trade deficit is caused largely by the unemployment catastrophe in Europe and the seemingly incurable stagnation in Japan, rather than the self-indulgence of American consumers. The US savings rate is not nearly as bad as it looks. Americans put their savings into equities, property and real assets. Each dollar of American savings goes a lot further, therefore, than the equivalent money that Germans and Japanese put in low-yielding deposits and government bonds.

But there is an issue of economic management more fundamental than any quibbles about statistics. In a world of reasonably free and flexible markets, imbalances in trade, consumption and investment can generate countervailing forces. As long as these balancing forces — currency movements, interest rate changes and fiscal deficits — are properly managed, a country can continue to grow with more or less full employment and modest levels of inflation for long periods.

Sooner or later macroeconomic fine-tuning is bound to result in a misjudgment that leads to recession or inflation. But a country that employs active and pragmatic macroeconomic management is likely to do better than one whose policymakers rely on unproven dogmas or arbitrary rules. This is the lesson Europeans should draw from America's economic success — instead of moralising about America's supposed decadence, Europeans should recognise that American economic policy is a model, not a threat, to the world.

America is far from perfect. I would certainly not want to bring up my children there. It lacks decent public services. It is marred by violence, extremism and grinding poverty. Altogether, there are many things wrong with America. It just happens that economic policy is not one of them.

UK insurance sector gripped by a fever of match-making

Marianne Curphey on intense efforts to get eligible suitors to the merger altar

Pick an insurance company, any insurance company and its name will have been linked with at least half a dozen possible suitors, such is the fever of bid and rumour sweeping the sector.

Since the beginning of the year, the City's biggest merchant banks have been putting their best efforts into corporate match-making. Their attempts to bring about successful marriages have intensified in recent months, amid fears that the most desirable companies might be paired up by Christmas. None of the Square Mile's heavy-hitters want to miss out on the last big deals of the year.

The eligible companies have already been lined up and their public and private comments picked over for clues to future strategies. They are Prudential, Standard Life, Scottish Widows, Commercial Union, Legal & General, General Accident, Norwich Union, Guardian Royal Exchange, BAT Industries (which owns Eagle Star and Allied Dunbar) and Royal & Sun Alliance (RSA). The names of many more smaller companies, including Friends Provident, Scottish Life and NPI, crop up regularly as possible bid targets.

Speculation this week has pushed up the share price of Commercial Union and BAT Industries. CU has been steadily climbing to its previous year high of 677½p although at yesterday's 644p it still has scope for growth. BAT's price has also continued to rise, putting on 9p to 497p, in spite of the prospect of more tobacco litigation in the United States. .

These rises have been fuelled by the revelation that the two had planned a merger. CU would have bought BAT's financial services division and left BAT with some control through a minority stake. Though the talks have reportedly broken down, BAT is still keen to find itself a partner and is believed to have talked to Legal & General. CU, meanwhile, is being linked to its composite rival, General Accident. Legal & General had earlier caught the eye of NatWest Bank, which has made no secret of its wish to expand within the UK. The names of the favoured few crop up every few months, linked with each other, with smaller mutual life insurers, with building societies and with banks.

In all but a few cases, the City believes they are about to embark on friendly mergers, rather than hostile bids. This is because price tags within the insurance and banking sectors have been rising quickly, and only a very brave company would feel comfortable paying the 25 per cent to 30 per cent bid premium expected from a hostile approach.

Much of the appetite for change has come from merchant banks, keen to rack up their fees, who have been pushing the line that medium-size insurance companies need to grow bigger simply to survive in an increasingly competitive market. They point to the merger in July of Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance, a friendly deal that created the Royal & Sun Alliance.

> Companies have been lined up and their comments picked over for clues to strategy

Yet, though the new company has talked about job losses, it has yet to fulfil its potential for dramatic savings. The City will be watching closely for signs of this when RSA reports full-year profits next year.

Some analysts take issue with the theory that bigger is always better. For a merger to be really successful, they argue, there must be a large overlap, which will enable computer systems to be merged, offices to be closed down and staff laid off.

This involves hard decisions and bad publicity for management. Bifu, the Banking Insurance and Finance Union, has predicted that half of the industry's 200,000 workforce will have been cut by the end of the decade. Others argue that since insurance companies' assets are its staff, mergers do not add value unless the cultures of the merging companies fit well and the employees can be persuaded to work together.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Campaign is failing to grasp the nettle on equal opportunities at work

From Mrs Penny Tucker

Sir, I would like to believe that improving business opportunities for women really will produce "sharp-gains" for all companies, as those involved in Opportunites 2000 claim (report, *The Times*, December 2). I have my doubts, however.

The organisations involved in Opportunities 2000 are self-selected. Either they have historically employed large numbers of women, or they have an ideological commitment to — or some other interest in — enhancing women's job opportunities. As proselytisers, they are likely to regard their achievements through rosy-tinted spectacles. As existing employers of large numbers of women, their experience, and gains, may be atypical.

Families tend to be inflexible in their demands. Family-friendly policies tend to give priorities to those whose families make demands. My own experience in the Armed Forces was that the family-friendly policy of trying to allow married couples to serve in the same area was particularly disadvantageous to single and "mobile" married women. Similarly, nurses complain about the way that the work-schedules of those without family constraints have to fit round the work-schedules of those with less flexibility.

The fact is that the opportunities of both sexes are constrained by our current belief that women have the right, if not the duty, to give up work when they have children. This acts as a disincentive to female commitment to employment beforehand, and often results in the value of women's earnings subsequently being less than the cost or effort of replacing their domestic contribution.

It virtually forces young fathers to work long hours in order to try to minimise the loss of income, and, since earnings and promotion tend to be linked, it almost inevitably creates a gulf between the achievements of men and women.

This is a difficult issue, like so many thrown up by the question of equal opportunities. I am afraid that Opportunities 2000, like the EOC, avoids grasping the nettle, preferring instead to pretend that we can have our cake and eat it, too.

Yours faithfully,
PENNY TUCKER,
7 Cedar Terrace,
Thackham's Lane,
Hartley Wintney,
Hampshire.

Offshore? Look closer to home

From Mr Matthew C. Cain

Sir, The recent revelations about the trading affairs of Mil-Tec Corporation Limited have done little to enhance the good reputation that the Isle of Man has earned as an offshore centre.

However, it must not be forgotten that in circumstances like these the jurisdiction of incorporation is often guilty merely by association (rather than by act or omission). The Isle of Man, along with a number of other responsible offshore jurisdictions, already has a relatively strong supervisory framework in place to prevent abuse of its offshore vehicles. Nevertheless, there will always be people who manage to slip through the net.

Whilst an inquiry into allegations surrounding Mil-Tec is to be welcomed, a knee-jerk offensive on offshore centres (let us not forget that some full members of the European Union are considered to be offshore centres), and the products they provide, is unnecessary. It is often more appropriate to look closer to home when seeking solutions to offshore problems.

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW C. CAIN,
314 Queenstown Road,
Battersea, SW8.

Building Societies Act 1986.

Notice under paragraph 7 of schedule 17 to the Act.

Notice is hereby given that the Alliance & Leicester Building Society, Register No. 737B, whose principal office is at 49 Park Lane, London W1Y 4EQ, desires to transfer its business to Alliance & Leicester plc, and that the Society has applied to the Building Societies Commission to confirm the transfer.

Any interested party may make written representation to the Commission and/or give notice of intention to make oral representations to the Commission with respect to the application.

Written representations and notices of intention to make oral representations should be received by the Commission at Victory House, 30-34 Kingsway, London WC2B 6ES, by no later than 13th January 1997.

Oral representations will be heard by the Commission on 10th February 1997 at a time and place to be determined by the Commission.

ALLIANCE LEICESTER

M&G still wedded to value investing despite criticism

By Gavin Lumsden

M&G GROUP vowed that it would remain a value investor yesterday, as it announced a 16 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £72.1 million, before exceptional items, for the year to September 30.

David Morgan, group managing director, said earnings per share had increased 13 per cent, to 66.2p, allowing a final dividend of 20p. This brings the year's total to 36p, to be paid on January 30, up from 32p previously. Funds under management grew by 13 per cent to £15.6 billion.

M&G's value approach, which relies on high-yielding, recovery and undervalued smaller and medium-sized stocks, has done badly this year. Private investors have sharply criticised the company as the proportion of its unit trusts in the top quartile has slumped from 81 per cent to 12 per cent in the past ten years. Nevertheless, M&G said it had paid £3.8 million in group performance-related bonuses.

Redemptions from its unit and investment trusts soared 47 per cent, to £584 million, although M&G said their proportion to funds under management was below the industry average. Net retail sales dropped £24 million, to £329 million, although the company attracted 86,000 new Pep investors and £600 million in funds.

Sales of regular-premium life and pension products doubled to £6.6 million, while single-premium sales fell from £107 million to £85 million.

In the City, M&G won £490 million of pension money from five new clients, bringing its total institutional funds to £5.5 billion, generating £8.7 million in fees.

Vivian Bazalgette, the new head of M&G Investment Management, said it would remain a value investor as a buoyant UK economy and rising interest rates boded well for the "belt and braces" style next year.

However he added that he had tightened stock-picking procedures. In future, Mr Bazalgette said, growth funds could be added to M&G's product range: "The future is in being a multi-product provider."

Victrex rises to record

INSULATION against the strength of the pound helped Victrex, the polymer producer, to return record results in the year to September 30 after securing its orders months before sterling's rise.

The company generates 97 per cent of its sales overseas and had pre-tax profits of £12.9 million, 35 per cent stronger than last time, on volume 21 per cent ahead at £38 million. Earnings rose to 11.9p per share (8.6p). A final dividend of 3p makes a total 4.5p (3.6p).

The shares closed down 4½p yesterday, at 295½p.

ADRIAN BROOKS

James Walker, the managing director of Walkers Shortbread, which won the £10,000 top prize in the Food from Britain Export Innovation Awards

Fine Art in £6m deal to sell off Papertree

By Jason Nissé and Martin Baker

FINE Art Developments, the troubled mail order and greetings cards group, is to sell its Papertree retailing arm to The Greetings Stores Group, an operation run by Stuart Greenwood, the former finance director of Spring Ram.

Greetings Stores, founded by David Gravelles, a leading Yorkshire businessman, is paying about £6 million for the 90 shops which make up Papertree. The deal will give Greetings Stores, which last week bought another chain, Strand Libraries, a total of 210 outlets.

Fine Art suffered a 66.2 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £2.1 million in the half-year to the end of September from turnover up 3.5 per cent to £143.6 million.

The dividend was maintained at 3.75p, despite a decline in earnings to 1.71p a share from 5.18p.

Fine Art issued a profits warning in November, and has been addressing problems in its agency mail order and wholesale greetings cards businesses. Mail order sales were down 6 per cent to £63.8 million, with an 18 per cent fall in operating profit to £4.6 million. The company has hired new management and is looking for a new mail order managing director.

BSkyB promises its rivals access to digital technology

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

BSKYB, the satellite broadcaster, told MPs yesterday that it would not unfairly deny its rivals access to vital technology that it is developing for the launch of digital television.

Giving evidence to the National Heritage Select Committee inquiry into the future of broadcasting, BSkyB dismissed claims by rival broadcasters that it intends to create a digital television monopoly. "Much hysterical, subjective and ill-informed debate has been fuelled by other vested interests," the company, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, the owner of *The Times*, said in its written submission.

BSkyB, which is planning to launch digital satellite services after next autumn, said that all broadcasters would have access to its satellite box on rate-card terms. But it rejected calls from the BBC that it should be obliged to licence its conditional access technology to rival broadcasters.

Lesley Hill, chairman of the ITV Association, called for the reform of regulations to create a level playing field between terrestrial and satellite broadcasters. In particular, there should be a standard family viewing watershed at 9pm.

The MPs told broadcasters that the increase in specialist television channels must not increase levels of small-screen violence. Joe Ashton, the Labour MP, said that unless the industry came up with sensible proposals Parliament would intervene.

Daily Mail reaches £85m

A SHARP fall in exceptional costs and a healthy advance in newspaper profits boosted the full-year profits of Daily Mail and General Trust (Frank le Duc writes). Group pre-tax profit jumped to £85.5 million, from £66.8 million, in the year to September 29. Before exceptionals, the group made £86.6 million (£80 million).

Increases in circulation of the *Daily Mail* and *The Mail on Sunday* helped operating profit in the newspapers division to rise to £82.9 million (£74.3 million).

Euromoney Publications contributed £22 million (£16.9 million).

However the company's television and radio activities are still losing money, although the full-year loss is down to £8.9 million (£11.5 million).

The charge for reorganisation and redundancies was £8.1 million, down from £21.8 million.

A final dividend of 14.8p a share, up from 13.5p and payable on February 14, makes 19.4p (17.8p) for the year, from adjusted earnings per share of 57.4p (51.4p).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Hicking Pentecost buys US operation

HICKING PENTECOST is expanding its industrial threads business through the purchase of a US business, Belding Thread, the thread division of the Belding Heminway Company, for $56.4 million. Belding produces industrial threads made of synthentic materials, such as nylon and polyester, for niche markets. The business earned operating profits of $5.1 million in 1995, on turnover of $68.3 million, compared with $6.4 million and $57.8 million in 1994.

The consideration includes the assumption of debts of $1.5 million. Hicking Pentecost will part-fund the acquisition through a placing and open offer to raise £22 million. Existing shareholders are offered stock units at 300p each, with each unit converting into ordinary shares on a one-for-one basis at 300p each. The existing shares fell 2p to 312½p yesterday. Hicking Pentecost, which reported interim results last month, said that trading remained in line with expectations.

Fraud claims fall again

FRAUDULENT insurance claims have fallen for the fourth year running, according to the Association of British Insurers (ABI). The estimated cost of false claims in the past year of £560 million was down 4.5 per cent on 1995. A seminar held by the ABI will be discussing the latest moves to combat fraud. Around one third of claims submitted in Britain are thought to be false or exaggerated, amounting to two fifths of the total cost to the insurance industry.

MTL wins Merseyrail

MTL GROUP, the UK's sixth largest bus operator, was named as the preferred bidder for the Merseyrail Electrics rail franchise. The decision by Opraf, the industry regulator, marks MTL's first success in the rail sell-off and its first foray outside its traditional operations. Merseyrail runs passenger services on two routes, comprising 75 miles of track in and around Liverpool. A formal award announcement will be made once exact details of the franchise have been finalised.

Baggeridge profit down

BAGGERIDGE BRICK is maintaining the total dividend at 3.125p a share despite suffering a decline in pre-tax profits to £2.5 million from £4.7 million in the year to September 30 which, the company said, proved to be the worst 12-month period for brick dispatches in the United Kingdom since 1945. Turnover fell to £33.1 million from £36.1 million. Earnings of 4.07p a share compared with 7.59p previously. The final dividend is unchanged at 2.375p a share. The shares fell 14p to 97½p.

Wainhomes pegs payout

WAINHOMES, the housing and construction company, suffered a 58 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £1.75 million in the half year to September 30. Earnings fell to 1.9p a share from 4.5p. The interim dividend was maintained at 1.5p a share. Wainhomes sold 546 houses in the first half, compared with 633 last year. The price per unit increased, however, rising from £76,123 to £82,582, much of it attributed to a rise in the average size of units sold.

Clayhithe in the red

CLAYHITHE, the electronics and specialist engineering group, is maintaining its interim dividend at 0.88p in spite of a £50,000 pre-tax loss in the half year to September 30, against profits of £166,000 previously. There was a loss of 0.2p a share, against earnings of 0.6p. Turnover fell to £13.88 million, from £14.3 million. The company, which earned profits of £1.7 million in the last full year, said that it hoped that growth would resume next year. The shares fell 7½p, to 62½p.

Windsor advances

WINDSOR, the insurance broker and financial services company, lifted pre-tax profits to £764,000, from £443,000, in the year to the end of September, in spite of incurring an exceptional £337,000 loss on the sale of investment property. Profits from continuing operations rose to £1.1 million, from £443,000. Earnings were 0.92p a share (0.57p last time), and the total dividend is increased 20 per cent, to 0.6p a share. The shares rose 1½p, to 21½p.

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For more information on the SEC or any of the other leading management courses at Manchester Business School, telephone Pam Ogden on +44 (0)161-275 6396 or fax on +44 (0)161-275 6582.
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The Ministry of Defence's Head Office, Whitehall, Central London

- A major PFI pathfinder project
- Serviced accommodation for the MoD's Whitehall Head Office
- Redevelopment of the 750,000 sq ft Main Building

Proposals are invited from companies registered and based in the UK for the implementation and funding of the redevelopment of the Head Office of the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall.

The aim is to provide modern, serviced accommodation for MoD Head Office staff. This requires extensive redevelopment of Main Building, a listed property between Embankment Gardens and Whitehall in London, and the movement of its occupants to other buildings during this time.

The selected Private Sector Partner (PSP) would be expected to provide facilities management services such as building services, accommodation services, office support services and staff support services.

The PSP is expected to offer innovative solutions and to accept and manage risks inherent in the delivery of the services and the redevelopment work.s

Expressions of interest are required no later than 12 noon on 4 February 1997 in accordance with the announcement in the MoD Works Services Opportunities journal, dated 11 December 1996.

Interested parties can receive the further information contained in the MoD Works Services Opportunities from the MoD's appointed PFI Adviser, Coopers & Lybrand. Please contact:

Mr Nasser Massoud, Team Leader
PFI Adviser's Office
Room 7207
Ministry of Defence
Main Building, Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
Telephone 0171 807 0078
Facsimile 0171 807 0079

Tender number WS13/3744

Coopers & Lybrand

HERBERT SMITH

*Underlying security price.

هكذا من الاهل

Early gains trimmed by close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	415½	Allied Domecq	425	− 4	6.9	12.8
625	477	Bulmer (HP)	542½		3.2	16.0
131	67½	Burn Stewart	71	...	8.8	75.5
895	615	Glenmorangie A†	847½	− 7½	1.8	23.1
456	411	Grand Met	436	− ½	4.7	13.7
493	425	Guinness	436	+ 5	4.4	13.5
378	315	Highland Distl	341½		3.0	18.5
803	267½	Matthew Clark	270½	− 4	11.1	12.9
141	91½	[illegible]	110½		5.8	14.6
2612½	1453¾	SA Breweries	1453½	− 28¼	2.2	...

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2959½	2743½	ABN-AMRO	3727½	+ 6½	2.4	14.1
715½	528	Abbey Nat	708½	+ 6	4.1	13.1
480	315	Allied Irish	392½		4.8	11.3
399¼	285	Aus New Z	385½	− 8¼	5.2	...
6187½	3843¾	Bank America	5875	− 84¾		
316	227½	Bank Scotland	294	+ 6	3.1	10.8
1041½	683	Barclays	1027½	− 1	3.4	11.2
528½	413	Bk of Ireland	517½		4.0	11.7
482	360	Cater Allen†	381¼	+ 2½	9.8	15.1
6483¾	4031¼	Citicorp	6100	− 159¼		
382	307½	Close Bros	318½	...	3.9	12.8
1575	1318¾	Commerzbk	1258½		3.5	..
1350	928½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	928½	− 12½	0.5	
3412½	2788½	Deutsche Bk	2850	+ 21½	2.5	
808¼	593¾	Espirito Santo	778¼		4.3	11.1
1507	955½	Fuji Bank Y	958¾	− 2½	0.5	
472	280	Gerrard Natl	275		10.6	11.2
267½	195	Hambros†	228	− 4½	4.1	19.3
1329	931	HSBC	1246½	+ ½	3.8	11.8
1295½	930	HSBC HK	1218	+ 1	3.8	11.5
499¾	385	Irish Perm	487½		2.9	13.3
197	143	King Shaxson†	192½		6.2	20.4
485	406	Leopold J	485		5.3	27.2
431	294½	Lloyds TSB	417	− 2	3.8	17.7
749½	556	Mid Aust Bk	708½	− 12	5.8	9.6
726½	605½	Nat West	672	+ 6	4.9	9.6
87	49½	Rea Brothers	80½		2.1	23.8
596	464	Ryl Bk Scotl	527½	+ 5	4.4	11.7
1547½	1186	Schroders	1507½	+ 5	1.5	17.1
1277½	890	Schroders N/V	1277½	+ 7½	1.7	14.5
135	98½	Singer & Fried	127	+ 1	4.2	9.3
729¼	547	Stand Chart	692¼	+ 13	2.2	13.5
115½	85½	Union	92½	...	4.1	9.9
£174¼	£131⅞	Wells Fargo	£164¼	...	1.9	..
362	264	Westpac	341¼	− 5¼	3.8	11.1
380	268	Woolwich	312½	+ 5	5.0	15.6

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OTHER FINANCIAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
172½	92	Johnson Fry	138½		3.6	6.1
395	328	Liberty Intl	387½		4.3	22.0
290½	218	Lon Forfaiting	278½	− 1	4.7	12.1
261	205½	London Pacific	208½		8.4	9.9
117	87½	Lon Scot Bk	96	+ ½	3.4	18.1
186	139	Man ED & F†	171		7.5	9.2
1358	1042½	M & G	1095	+ 1½	4.2	16.2
1207½	841	[illegible]	1231½	− 4	4.0	20.6
117½	90½	Nat Home Loan	115		2.6	
2975	1830	Perpetual	2250	− 2½	3.2	16.6
500	335	Provident	473½		4.0	17.8
336	310	[illegible]	310	− 1	4.2	13.8
60½	37½	[illegible]	57½		3.0	15.7
112	42	SEC Group	107½		5.7	
457	290	S & U	412		5.0	10.4
57	33	Town, Lon	40			
8	4	[illegible] Hldgs	4½	− ½	..	..

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
350	103¾	Brit Biotech	210	+ 3½		
715	340	Cantab Pharmc	630			
692	441	Celltech	510			
585	224	Chiroscience	312½	− 5		
447	147	Cortecs	170	+ 3½		
1034½	767	Glaxo Wellc	944	+ 6	4.0	13.5
475	134	ML Laboratories	202½	+ ½		59.0
286	208	Medeva	269	+ 4	2.0	15.2
248	175½	Proteus Intl	201½			
809	524	Scotia	602½			
266	179	Shire Pharmc	193½	− 7		29.3
96	66	SkyePharma	77½	− ½		
854½	628½	SmithKline†	812½	+ 3½	2.4	29.4
552	408	Therp Ant Inc	409	− 4		
633	457½	Vanguard	535			
1706½	1216	Zeneca	1617½	− 4	2.5	35.2

PRINTING & PAPER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155½	127½	AG Holdings†	140		5.4	11.6
735	547	API	697½		2.0	
140	56	App Holo	58½			
212	146	Arjo Wiggins	158½	+ 3	5.9	
236	127½	Aspen Comms	132½		6.9	10.4
18	12½	Bath Press	17½		3.2	9.7
422½	339	Bemrose	408½		4.5	13.6
212½	138	[illegible]	208		1.4	37.7
2725	2037½	Bowater Inc	2234¼	− 37½		
345½	209½	[illegible]	318½		1.3	25.2
770	645	Br Polythene	722½		3.0	15.5
38	16	Br Thornton	20			
168	132	Britton Grp	151	+ 1	2.6	12.9
245½	191	Bunzl	221½	+ 1	3.4	13.8
207½	170½	Capital Inds	198½		3.4	13.7
378½	279	Cropper (James)†	328½		1.6	12.0
755	538	De La Rue†	539	− 2	5.6	13.8
95	73	Delyn Group	75		3.4	14.9
197½	131	Dolphin Pack	195½	+ 1	2.7	15.9
117½	77½	Fairway Group	77½	− 1	6.4	12.7
267	190	Ferguson Intl	234		7.1	12.4
275	132½	Filtona	132½		3.3	9.8
177	112	Inveresk	135½	− ½	5.3	12.2
310	186½	Jarvis Porter	211½	− 1	4.1	12.5
574	399	Low & Bonar	407½		4.2	11.3
118½	66	MY Holdings	119		3.7	17.0
263	166	Macfarlane	175½		2.8	14.7
134	92½	[illegible]	93½		8.5	6.9
404	282	[illegible]	383½		2.2	19.5
201	156½	Plysu	158½		5.9	15.3
81	26	Porter Chadburn	29		1.1	10.5

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
522	258	Lloyds Chem	508½		2.6	19.1
209½	149½	MFI	192½	+ 3	2.9	22.6
533	416½	Marks Spencer†	484½	− 2	3.0	19.7
635	525	Menzies (John)	561		3.1	14.0
23½	15½	[illegible]	22½			26.6
1336	615	Moss Bros	1155	+ 5	2.1	23.5
609½	420	Next†	567	− 1½	2.9	23.4
63	31½	Oliver (G)	38			
555	400	[illegible]	536		2.9	16.3
85½	66	Partridge Fine	75		4.8	12.7
56	32	QS Hldgs	35		5.4	
299½	191	[illegible]	292½	+ 1	2.6	21.9
106	85½	Sears	93		5.3	75.8
34	14½	Signet Group	26	+ ½		
534	398	Smith WH	424½	+ 4½	4.6	
1091	820	Sotheby's	1075	− 5	1.8	
382	251	Storehouse	251	− 1	3.8	16.5
157	90	Stylo	140	− 1	3.9	23.1
231	163½	T & S Stores	171½		5.3	11.0
410	252	[illegible]	254	− 4	6.6	22.5
187½	158	Tie Rack†	187		1.9	18.6
4	2½	[illegible]	3½			33.5
664	523½	Vendome†	547½	− 1	2.4	20.1
29½	12	WEW Group	26			
161	66	Wickes#	69		3.8	
94	52	Wld of Leather	75		2.8	
235½	198	Wyevale	235		3.1	17.5

SUPPORT SERVICES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1550	883	ADT	1212½	− 2½		
403½	314½	AEA Tech†	372½	+ 7½	2.5	17.2
135	92	Alpha Airpts	106½		5.9	13.6
79	36	Alphameric	35½		...	13.9
352½	215	Atkins WS	350½	+ ½	2.3	25.5
190	129	BWB Res	155	− ½	5.5	8.4
400	283	BPP	360½		4.0	17.4
232	155	BSM	185½		4.8	12.3
2675	1015	BTG	2312½	+ 37½	0.2	
1350	400	[illegible]	475			
189	123	Brit Data Mgt	174½		3.9	21.0
110½	80	Brooke Service	90½		4.4	14.5
590	373	Business Post	471½	− 1	2.5	24.1
885	329	CMG	880	+ 15	0.9	38.7
276½	111½	CRT Gp	256	− 7½	2.0	32.1
958¼	187	Card Gp	627½		0.6	4.8
477½	285	Capita Group	474½		1.2	39.3
10¾	5½	Chemex	7½		2.5	13.0
386	309½	Chubb Sec	314	− 5	3.5	15.2
196½	92	Corp Services	174		3.2	21.2
59½	46	Coutts Cnslg	52½	..	4.8	17.9
255½	73	DCS Gp	222½		0.8	38.1
276½	202½	Davis Service	217½	+ 1	5.6	11.8
660	367	Delphi	650	+ 5	0.9	22.7
170	98	Dudley Jenkins	170		2.6	33.3
82	38	EW Fact	65		3.2	10.0
116	59½	[illegible]	70	− 2½	4.0	
480	245	FI Group	480	+ 5	1.1	41.8
543	362	Hays	534½	− 3½	1.9	24.0
290½	210	Hogg Robinson†	290½	+ 2	3.9	13.4
542	360	JBA Hldgs†	495	− 5	1.0	29.6
331	256	Johnson Clean	256½	− 1	5.3	11.1
149	103	Kalamazoo†	118½		4.8	11.4
513½	351	Kewill Syst	513½	+ 9	2.1	14.0
347	57	[illegible]	90	+ 1		
41	13	Laser-Scan	26			
165½	145½	Lavendon	156½	− 1	2.7	12.2
139	90	Leigh	107½		4.6	
892½	452	Logica	889	+ 12½	1.1	33.3
99	68	Lon Hldgs†	82½		2.7	15.4
92	36½	MDIS	37½		4.0	
587	246	MMT Compt	540	+ 3½	2.0	23.4
101	65	MR Group	81½		5.5	15.7
520	398	Macro 4	490		6.2	13.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
631	512	Anglian	547½	+ 1½	7.1	6.6
785	656	Hyder†	731	+ 1	7.0	10.1
109	96	Hyder Cm Pf	105¼	− ¼	9.7	
640	420	Mid Kent Hldgs†	630		5.9	10.5
688	518	Severn Trent	652½	− 6½	6.6	7.1
2875	2375	South Staffs†	2862½		3.6	14.2
731	489	South West	582½	+ 7½	7.8	6.5
599	526½	Thames†	572½	− 1½	6.6	7.4
633	529	Utd Utilities†	571½	− 4½	7.5	10.4
378	295	Wessex	363½	− ½	5.7	6.9
791	580	Yorkshire†	675	− 9	5.9	8.9

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
87½	18	Abacus Recruit	84½		..	24.1
213	95	Cafe Inns	170		1.8	13.1
177½	58	County Gdns	146½	− 2½	1.2	15.1
1950	883	Dawson Hldgs	1887½		2.1	16.6
45¼	14	Freepages	43½			
117	92	Megalomedia	98½	..		55.3
475	22½	Memory Corp	467½			
180	85¼	Old English Pub	172	− 2	1.1	54.0
560	282½	Pet City	430	− 15		
500	158¼	Prism Rail	475			
607½	520	Southern News	605	+ 10	3.7	17.2
79½	58	Southern Vectis	67½		3.5	15.6
375	122	[illegible]	356	− 1	0.8	
79½	44	Trocadero	51			

Source: FT Information

© USM. # Price at suspension. † Ex-dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ▲ Ex rights issue. ▼ Ex all. § Ex capital distribution. * Figures or report awaited. · No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock	Int yld %	Grs red yld
Treas 7% 1997	6.97	6.33
Treas 13¼% 1997	13.16	6.12
Exch 10½% 1997	10.43	6.28
Treas 8¾% 1997	8.61	6.37
Exch 15% 1997	14.01	6.50
Exch 9¾% 1998	9.44	6.56
Treas 7¼% 1998	7.19	6.60
Treas 14% 1998-01	12.74	6.74
Treas 15½% 1998	13.54	6.85
Exch 12% 1998	10.99	6.90
Treas 9½% 1999	9.05	6.94
Exch 12¼% 1999	11.03	6.97
Treas 10½% 1999	9.74	6.96
Treas 6% 1999	6.19	6.92
Conv 10¼% 1999	9.46	7.07
Conv 9% 2000	8.55	7.12
Treas 8% 2000	7.79	7.21
Treas 13% 2000	11.83	7.25
Treas 10% 2001	9.13	7.31
Treas 7% 2001	7.09	7.33

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock	Int yld %	Grs red yld
Treas 9¾% 2002	8.83	7.47
Treas 8% 2003	7.78	7.47
Treas 10% 2003	8.86	7.52
Treas 11½% 2001-04	9.90	7.34
Fund 3½% 1999-04	4.20	6.33
Conv 9½% 2004	8.55	7.59
Treas 6¾% 2004	7.09	7.56
Treas 8½% 2005	8.06	7.65
Conv 9½% 2005	8.54	7.55
Treas 12½% 2003-05	9.90	7.57
Treas 7¾% 2006	7.59	7.68
Treas 7½% 2006	7.73	7.70
Treas 8% 2002-06	7.82	7.58
Treas 11¾% 2003-07	9.76	7.54
Treas 8½% 2007	8.05	7.71
Treas 9% 2008	8.18	7.75
Treas 8% 2009	7.81	7.78

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock	Int yld %	Grs red yld
Treas 6¼% 2010	7.18	7.83
Conv 9% 2011	8.15	7.82
Treas 9% 2012	8.12	7.82
Treas 5½% 2008-12	6.75	7.57
Treas 8% 2013	7.86	7.83
Treas 7¾% 2012-15	7.76	7.83
Treas 8% 2015	7.82	7.81
Treas 8¾% 2017	8.09	7.87
Exch 12% 2013-17	8.45	
Tr 8% 2021	7.81	7.81

UNDATED

Stock	Int yld %	Grs red yld
War Ln 3½%	7.86	
Treas 2½%	7.93	
Consols 4%	8.12	

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

Stock	10%	5%
Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	0.03	2.16
Treas IL 2% 2001	2.61	3.24
Treas IL 2½% 2003	2.85	3.32
Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	2.95	3.36
Treas IL 2% 2006	3.11	3.44
Treas IL 2½% 2009	3.24	3.50
Treas IL 2½% 2011	3.30	3.54
Treas IL 2½% 2013	3.37	3.57
Treas IL 2½% 2016	3.41	3.61
Treas IL 2½% 2020	3.48	3.64
Treas IL 2½% 2024	3.49	3.64
Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	3.48	3.63

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 258 783

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Grolund Amer	233.90	247.10†	- 1.60	..
Grolund Equity	285.70	303.90	- 0.50	1.77
Grolund Euro	264.30	279.70	- 0.30	0.58
Grolund Expl Bal	133.30	138.00	...	2.55
Grolund Corp Bd	76.00	78.51	- 0.20	7.83
Grolund Japan	150.70	159.50†	- 1.10	

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
General Acc	679.00	722.40	+ 1.20	2.49
General Inc	566.80	603.00	+ 1.00	2.49
UK Growth Acc	465.70	496.50	+ 1.20	2.64
UK Growth Inc	302.00	321.30	+ 0.80	2.64
Higher Inc Acc	823.00	875.60	+ 3.00	4.12
Higher Inc Inc	438.50	466.50	+ 1.60	4.12
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	217.30	225.30	- 0.30	5.47
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	93.38	98.64	- 0.10	5.47
Nth America	370.40	394.10	- 3.00	...
Europe	357.10	379.90	- 0.80	0.46
Brit Excell	92.72	98.22†	+ 0.25	2.79
Brit Fndmtls Acc	117.10	124.60	+ 0.20	4.66
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.33	83.34	+ 0.16	4.66
Global Opps	100.40	106.90†	- 0.60	..
Balanced Acc	63.60	67.67	- 0.02	2.59
Balanced Inc	59.38	63.18	- 0.02	2.59
Japan Acc	41.25	43.90	- 0.46	..
Pac Basin Acc	395.20	420.50	- 2.90	0.94

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilts & Fixed Int	131.40	139.50†	- 0.60	7.00
High Inc Equity	184.80	197.60	- 0.70	4.36
Worldwide Bond	271.70	288.10†	- 0.60	4.64
American Growth	393.00	420.00	- 2.60	0.30
Asian Pacific	315.30	337.20	- 2.40	0.08
Assets & Earnings	305.70	327.00†	- 0.50	2.89
Euro Capital Acc	187.30	200.30	- 0.20	0.79
Extra Inc	43.00	45.74†	+ 0.01	7.84
General	280.40	298.30	- 1.20	2.94
Global Opps	68.44	72.81	- 0.54	0.55
Japan	102.70	109.80	- 1.00	
Managed Inc	48.05	51.12†	- 0.12	4.69
Mastertrust	166.80	178.40	- 0.90	1.03
US Emerging Cos	208.90	223.30	- 1.70	.
Ethical	81.83	86.84	- 0.14	2.15
International	135.00	143.80	- 0.80	0.50
Dividend & Growth	69.24	73.66	- 0.22	4.17
Global Gwth & Sec	74.01	79.10	- 0.04	2.35
Latin America	63.58	67.64	- 1.16	.
Capital Reserve	146.50	146.50	.	4.76

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Small Cos	2338.00	2434.00	-21.00	

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Inc & Growth	61.48	63.79	- 0.42	0.15
Emerging Mkts	69.93	72.84	- 0.36	0.05
European	151.00	157.00	- 0.20	
Exempt	1096.00	1159.00	+ 1.00	1.67
Extra Income #	48.76	49.21†	+ 0.01	6.81
Far East Emg Ecn	124.60	130.70	- 0.30	0.48
Fixed Interest #	25.34	26.36†	- 0.04	9.07
Fund Inv Tst	153.40	160.90	- 0.10	9.54
Japan	161.90	168.20	- 1.80	.
Latin American	58.18	58.47	- 0.93	0.83
Pacific	80.93	84.97	- 0.33	0.31
Property Share	74.42	78.13	+ 0.06	2.25
UK Emerging Cos	69.71	75.35	+ 0.10	1.28
UK Growth	54.88	57.16	+ 0.09	2.05
Aber World Port #	80.74	82.32†	- 0.06	3.02
Ethical	77.20	80.29†	- 0.01	2.30
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	52.15	58.20†	- 0.11	7.38

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 5868

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Resdl Property #	99.42	107.00		5.30

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amity Income	92.39	98.03	+ 0.12	2.31
Income Builder Inc	80.81	85.97†	+ 0.19	4.44

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	288.10	307.80	+ 0.20	3.02
Capital	504.10	538.80	- 0.50	1.17
Balanced	828.40	885.50†	+ 1.00	2.35
Accumulator	1611.00	1722.00	+ 2.00	1.81
Income Trusts				
American Income	63.15	67.290	- 0.55	2.37
High Income	463.10	494.90	+ 0.60	4.31
Equity Income	262.70	280.70	+ 0.10	3.96
High Yield	280.80	300.10†	+ 0.40	4.00
Govt Securities	34.58	36.500	- 0.09	5.98
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	222.20	237.00	- 1.90	0.05
European Growth	53.19	56.690	- 0.24	0.07
International	184.70	197.42	- 1.20	0.11
Japan	176.70	188.80	- 2.20	.
Pacific	397.70	425.10	- 5.70	.
Secs of America	595.80	634.30†	-04.50	0.12
Wwide Asset Val	55.26	59.070	- 0.30	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	643.90	688.30†	+ 2.30	1.98
Cmdy & Gen	50.90	54.410	+ 0.07	3.89
Smaller Cos	201.70	215.60	+ 0.40	1.06
2nd Smaller Cos	191.40	204.60	+ 0.40	0.90
Recovery	169.30	180.90	+ 0.30	1.56
Met Min & Cdty	159.80	170.80†	- 1.70	0.18
Oseas Earnings	422.50	451.60†	- 0.60	1.07
Technology	224.10	239.50	- 1.60	..
UK Special Sits	592.50	633.30	+ 1.80	0.99

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01293 526 911

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Contrib Ord Pens	119.70	124.30	.	3.94
Feendin Persl Pens	71.09	73.85	.	1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Capital	87.17	92.73	+ 0.58	1.15
International	67.45	71.76	..	.

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
America	356.70	380.10	- 0.80	.
Bond	119.30	125.50	- 0.50	6.57
Brit Smlr Cos	117.20	124.70	- 0.10	1.78
Conv & Gen #	69.35	73.78†	+ 0.17	5.25
Europe	282.60	299.80†	+ 0.90	0.48
Euro Smlr Cos	122.20	129.70†	- 0.30	0.60
Income Gwth	363.50	386.70†	+ 1.70	4.92
Japan	290.20	308.40	- 2.00	..
Latin American	82.17	87.41	- 1.16	0.77
Pacific	112.00	119.20†	- 1.10	1.02
UK Smlr Cos	57.08	60.72	+ 0.10	1.30
Japan Fd	579.30	597.20	- 4.60	..
Mngd Fd	204.00	216.60	- 0.10	2.75

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 8673

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Brit & Oseas	383.40	405.50	- 7.00	0.87
Capital Gwth	133.50	141.30	- 0.40	3.04
Wwide Opps	227.00	240.10	- 4.80	0.82

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
0181 522 4000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	430.10	459.10†	- 1.20	2.53
European Bd Inc	99.31	102.80	- 0.20	8.09
Exempt	84.33	89.06†	- 0.27	2.82
500	499.20	544.80	- 1.30	2.27
General	327.70	350.80	- 1.00	2.51
Property	245.20	263.10†	.	5.17
Trustee	230.20	246.20	- 0.60	2.31
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.90	100.90	..	5.26
Distribution	111.50	112.90†	- 0.30	6.24
Extra Income #	138.30	147.90	- 0.40	4.70
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.64	60.69†	- 0.27	7.83
Income #	595.80	637.20	- 1.00	4.57
Income Builder #	69.46	74.09	- 0.22	5.35
Intl Income	71.89	76.47	- 0.39	2.32
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	144.30	154.30	- 0.50	1.88
FTSE 100	101.80	108.48†	- 0.20	2.75
Leisure	176.90	189.20	- 0.60	0.79
Recovery	491.30	525.40	- 1.30	2.77
Smllr Cos Inc	58.19	62.40	- 0.15	3.43
Special Sits	402.30	430.00	- 0.50	1.53
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	177.80	188.70†	- 1.70	0.32
F East Gwth Acc	292.00	313.30	- 2.30	0.57
Far East Gwth	173.20	185.90†	- 1.30	0.57
Euro Gwth Inc	191.00	202.70	+ 0.50	0.59
-do- Accum	207.70	220.50	+ 0.60	0.59
Japan	131.00	139.70	- 1.50	
-do- Accum	132.50	140.30	- 1.50	
Japan Spec Sits	61.22	65.24	- 0.67	
Worldwide	197.00	209.10	- 1.30	0.35

BARING FUND MANGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Growth	136.30	144.30	- 0.40	
Amer Smlr Cos	159.40	171.20	- 0.70	
Convertibles	60.67	64.86	- 0.01	4.60
Eastern	296.00	318.20	- 2.50	0.30
Equity Income #	100.00	107.80		4.20
European Growth	362.70	385.20	+ 0.50	0.80
Europe	357.90	383.60†	- 0.40	0.80
German Growth	87.48	92.66	+ 0.09	0.50
Global Bond	71.70	75.41	- 0.23	6.20
Global Growth	142.60	151.40†	- 0.40	0.40
Japan Growth	179.70	190.70	- 1.30	.
Japan Smaller	138.50	146.80	- 0.40	
Korea Trust	49.05	53.06	- 0.45	
Portfolio	144.70	154.50		2.00
-do- Accum	274.30	292.90	- 0.10	2.00
UK Growth	107.80	115.40	+ 0.30	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	96.96	105.40	- 0.10	1.90
Select Managers	88.24	94.65	- 0.17	1.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Gwth Port Inc	89.58	95.31		.
Special Oppor Inc	58.64	62.39		.

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
0141 223 6020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Growth	145.66	152.24†	- 0.36	1.47
-do- Accum	167.46	177.20	- 0.42	1.47
Smaller Cos	157.17	166.31†	+ 4.69	0.66
Higher Yield #	57.30	60.63†	- 0.19	4.12
American Spec	105.70	111.85	- 0.08	
European Growth	165.50	175.13	+ 0.30	0.13
-do- Accum	168.83	178.65	+ 0.38	0.13
Mngd Pfolio Inc	53.87	56.99	- 0.25	1.45
-do- Accum	56.90	59.13	- 0.26	1.45
Int Spec Opps	168.27	178.06	- 1.33	
Pacific Gwth	149.84	158.56	- 1.42	0.04
UK General #	99.54	105.33	+ 0.97	2.85
-do- Accum #	106.47	112.69	+ 1.04	2.77
Japan	51.05	54.02	- 0.47	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	100.85	104.51†	- 0.52	8.29

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7215

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Short Dated Gilt	66.78	67.64	- 0.10	6.37

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5060

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Eurofin	187.50	197.40†	.	1.91
UK Growth	213.90	225.10	- 0.80	2.17
UK Income	149.90	157.70	- 0.60	4.42

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 682 100

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Can Gen Dist	235.10	249.00	- 0.10	1.59
-do- Income Dist	128.00	135.80	+ 0.30	3.69
-do- Accum	412.90	443.90	+ 1.00	3.69
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.35	43.46	- 0.05	6.26
Growth Units	257.70	275.60	- 0.10	1.94
Bond	178.10	187.40	- 0.70	8.90
Intl Growth	239.70	254.90	- 1.60	0.15
North American	259.70	278.10	- 2.20	0.00
Far East	303.50	324.60	- 2.10	0.53
UK Smaller Cos	222.10	237.50	+ 0.30	1.02
European	95.79	101.58	- 0.20	0.54
Japanese Growth	40.93	43.40	- 1.09	.
High Income	225.00	240.50	+ 0.80	4.08

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 837 7433 Dlg 0161 837 7455

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American & Gen	222.70	235.50	- 1.90	
European Inc	94.33	100.08	- 0.32	0.37
Smaller Cos (4-1)	106.40	113.20	- 0.10	1.43
Growth	552.80	586.10	+ 1.40	2.04
Income & Growth #	458.00	497.90	+ 1.10	3.78
-do- Accum #	707.40	752.80	+ 1.80	3.78
Japan & Gen	58.76	62.49	- 0.41	
Master Portfolio	£122.27	£127.37	- 3.00	1.80
-do- Accum	£151.11	£157.41	- 4.00	1.80
Special Sits	128.30	136.40	+ 0.30	2.02
High Yield	£14.92	£15.48†	+ 4.00	4.29

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cazenove Portfolio	102.43	109.24	+ 0.02	1.83
American Portfolio	124.08	131.82†	- 0.17	1.01
European Portfolio	135.21	143.88	- 0.51	0.63
High Income	52.27	52.39†	- 0.19	7.47
Japanese Portfolio	60.31	63.97	- 0.83	..
Pacific Portfolio	156.38	168.15†	- 1.40	1.06
UK Equity	97.42	104.08	+ 0.12	3.42
UK Equity & Bd	58.12	61.58	- 0.18	6.19
UK Smlr Cos	51.26	54.83	- 0.05	1.25

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Inv Fund	772.52	784.20	- 2.82	4.36
Fxd Int Sec	155.40	156.02	- 1.61	9.17

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Investment Inc	768.63	780.25	-11.35	4.53
Investment Acc	635.43	635.97	-62.74	..
Fixed Int Inc	128.48	129.00	- 0.85	8.98
Fixed Int Acc	234.01	234.95	- 1.52	...

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Beckman Intl	89.18	94.01	..	5.93
Beck Bio-Tech	43.32	47.11†	- 0.27	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	189.79	199.30†	..	8.44
City Fin Assets	79.12	83.08	...	1.85
City Fin Intl	88.72	93.18†	...	0.14
Friars Hse Cap	312.09	332.01	..	2.34
Buckley Wrld Gth	135.87	144.02	..	
J Sld Inc/Gth Inc	57.82	60.72†	- 1.14	3.52
Shaw Utilities	58.20	60.71†	+ 0.61	8

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Emerging Markets	52.53	55.74	- 0.36	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Gwth	90.93	96.10	- 0.88	.
Dragon Growth	71.51	76.49	- 0.84	0.31
Equity High Inc	90.53	97.00†	+ 0.43	4.25
-do- Accum	131.68	141.32	+ 0.63	4.25
Extra Income Inc	28.83	29.26	- 0.14	7.39
Extra Income Acc	29.52	31.10	- 0.15	7.33
European Gwth	62.63	68.45	- 0.08	0.82
Evergreen	31.40	33.58	- 0.12	...
General Equity	106.67	113.18	+ 0.31	2.06
Japan Growth	42.55	45.27	- 0.35	...
Pedigree Gwth	64.81	69.46	+ 0.03	2.36
Ped Sm Cos Inc	37.58	40.19†	- 0.05	1.36
-do- Accum	39.84	42.84	- 0.06	1.36
Retirement Inc #	27.49	29.72	+ 0.14	6.10
Special Sits	46.26	49.74	+ 0.04	2.43
UK & Overseas	59.68	63.30	- 0.32	0.58

COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 898 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced	70.95	73.90	...	4.09
Capital	84.47	87.98	+ 0.17	2.80
High Income	52.23	54.40†	- 0.27	6.67
Top 50	57.44	59.83	+ 0.26	2.56

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD
0181 689 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	193.88	201.96	+ 0.55	4.55
Long Gilt	44.15	45.98	- 0.09	5.98
Monthly Inc Plus	50.29	52.39	- 0.16	8.55
Preference Share	47.66	49.65	- 0.08	7.85
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	141.79	147.70	+ 0.29	5.76
Managed Fund	77.19	80.41	- 0.18	2.76
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	52.61	54.80	+ 0.10	1.73
-do- Accum	62.19	64.78	+ 0.12	1.73
UK & General	98.47	102.57	+ 0.22	2.94
-do- Accum	129.56	134.98	+ 0.28	2.94
UK Growth	198.13	206.39	+ 0.67	1.36
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	208.67	217.38	- 0.09	0.67
Far Eastern Gth	131.04	136.50	- 0.97	0.02
Global Bond	77.30	80.42	+ 0.09	6.16
Japan Growth	100.59	104.78	- 0.91	..
North Amer Gth	242.79	252.91	- 1.69	.
Oriental Growth	84.01	87.51	- 0.52	0.26
Worldwide Growth	71.58	74.57	- 0.24	..
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.19	92.19	+ 0.01	5.21
Homemaker Fund	90.17	95.83	- 0.12	1.57
Quilter Fund	155.15	165.05	+ 0.22	1.23

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Consistent UT	36.05	38.54	- 0.52	4.31

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Growth	177.70	189.00†	+ 0.10	2.72
Income	74.05	78.78	+ 0.31	5.60
European	75.21	80.01	+ 0.42	0.81
Recovery	187.40	199.40	+ 0.10	2.62

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 283 9494

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	1003.60	1019.70†		3.32

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 690 370

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Fellowship Tst	111.40	118.50	- 0.19	1.18
Income #	286.00	304.20†	+ 0.30	4.69
-do- Accum #	763.40	812.10	+ 0.80	4.60
Smaller Cos	233.80	248.70	- 0.10	0.87
-do- Accum	290.30	308.80	- 0.20	0.87
Gilt Portfolio	102.20	108.70	+ 0.10	1.30
High Inc Port #	83.18	88.48	+ 0.05	4.29

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 470 1634

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euro Small Cos	1632.50	1683.70†	- 5.40	..
Japan Small Cos	1801.50	1918.70†	-27.60	0.01
UK Small Cos	2177.80	2272.10	-23.90	2.91
US Small Cos	2154.30	2226.60†	-19.10	0.84

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 377 8819

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Disc Inc	228.70	240.70†		3.12

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Balanced Inc	172.80	183.80†	- 0.30	1.76
UK High Inc Inc	179.90	191.30	- 0.50	3.72
-do- Accum	246.60	262.30	- 0.70	3.72
Uk Pref & F I Inc	59.37	62.98†	- 0.27	5.87
Euromkt Opps	99.83	106.20	- 0.20	0.94
UK Smlr Cos #	68.82	73.21	- 0.13	1.09
Extra Income Inc	50.39	53.60	- 0.29	7.35

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 690 526

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	179.80	190.30	- 1.20	0.42
Convertibles #	22.59	24.00†	- 0.01	5.83
Equity Income #	142.70	151.60†	+ 0.70	3.96
EuroFund	62.90	66.54	+ 0.24	0.60
Financial	56.60	60.14	- 0.19	1.50
Growth & Inc #	291.30	309.40	+ 3.60	2.83
High Dist #	178.30	189.40†	+ 0.98	4.49
International	423.30	449.80	- 2.60	0.11
Int Cap Inc	104.70	111.80	+ 0.10	2.42
Latin American	30.03	31.91	- 0.67	..
Pacific	81.73	86.84	- 0.08	...
Pref High Inc	22.83	24.04	- 0.03	7.49
Tokyo	195.10	206.50	- 1.60	..
UK Smaller Cos	251.70	267.40	- 0.60	1.12
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Gwth	329.40	347.70	- 0.40	1.04
Jap Smlr Co	365.40	387.70	- 3.10	
Nth Amer	434.30	460.20	- 5.80	0.64
UK Inc & Gwth	254.10	271.10	+ 0.50	2.73

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
8th Director Dign	114.59	122.56		1.14
Growth Acc	391.23	379.10	.	1.09
Income	607.45	649.68		6.16

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7261

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Endurance Fd	225.00	239.40	- 4.00	1.24

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01296 431 480

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	89.91	94.64	- 0.28	1.84
Ethical Tst	46.79	49.25	- 0.10	0.99
Far Eastern	295.55	311.11	- 3.19	1.58
High Income	139.59	146.94†	+ 0.17	5.02
UK Index Tracking	51.70	54.42	+ 0.01	3.25
Intl Growth	140.24	147.62	- 0.35	0.45
North American	150.28	158.19	- 0.18	1.68
Pelican	142.77	150.28	+ 0.07	3.17
Smaller Cos	72.29	76.09†	+ 0.17	2.84
Special Sits	89.05	93.74	- 0.11	3.19
Est of Inv Tsts	216.13	227.50	+ 0.03	1.31

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Smaller Cos Inc	231.23	245.99	- 0.18	2.40
Smaller Cos Acc	417.63	444.29	- 0.30	2.40
Recovery	57.10	60.74†	+ 0.08	2.29
Recovery Acc	59.57	63.37†	+ 0.09	2.29

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Capital Growth	92.98	97.71	- 0.53	
Fd of Inv Tsts	52.16	55.64	- 0.37	0.52
High Income #	39.44	42.27	- 0.03	10.88
Warrant	44.17	48.07	- 0.24	
Zero Preference	44.69	47.42†	- 0.04	

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 220 707

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Family Asset Tst	94.10	100.10	- 0.20	2.52
United Charities	314.30	334.00	- 0.60	2.21

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.50
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	27.76	28.79	- 0.03	5.41
Strategic Inc	27.24	28.46	- 0.08	5.71
Income Funds				
High Income	36.92	38.25†	- 0.02	5.46
Income Plus	133.10	141.60†	+ 0.10	4.02
European Income	50.04	53.18	- 0.02	2.56
UK Div Gth	32.19	34.23	+ 0.02	2.19
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	61.00	65.07	- 0.34	...
American	330.80	350.50†	- 1.10	
Amer Spec Sits	185.50	197.90	- 1.29	
Japan Smaller Cos	28.69	30.56	- 0.13	.
European	227.90	242.40	- 0.40	0.56
European Opps	79.32	85.05	- 0.06	0.02
Global Pay	30.50	32.43	- 0.08	0.35
UK Growth	124.80	132.70		1.47
Growth & Inc	182.00	193.60		2.40
Intl PEP	48.74	51.83	- 0.14	1.66
Japan Spec Sits	77.70	82.46	- 1.20	.
Japan	161.00	170.80	- 1.80	.
Managed Intl	354.00	375.70	- 2.20	0.50
Moneybuilder	66.27	70.47	- 0.18	
Recovery	62.01	65.94	- 0.12	1.64
South E Asia	187.50	200.10	- 1.20	0.96
Special Sits	735.90	782.50	- 0.60	0.56
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	116.95	116.95	+ 0.07	5.50

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced #	149.80	151.20		1.58
Fledgeling Prf Inc #	97.09	98.33†	- 0.17	6.00
Cap Pfolio	161.10	163.40	- 0.60	0.88
General Opps	142.50	144.50†		4.20
Growth Inc	37.20	37.58†	+ 0.05	1.42
Private Portfolio	488.30	497.30		1.20

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Dlg 01277 690 386 Admin/Val 01277 690 350

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euro Smlr Cos	190.40	193.26	- 0.40	0.25
Emrg Asset	129.60	136.70	- 0.50	.
High Income	21.33	22.67†	+ 0.11	9.93
UK Income #	112.40	119.80†	+ 0.20	4.12
US Smaller Cos	418.10	445.80	- 4.20	

For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
Enq 0171 330 8500 Dealing 0345 775511

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Growth	80.65	85.83	- 0.69	.
-do- Accum	80.66	85.83	- 0.69	.
Amer Smlr Cos	661.80	707.80	- 7.50	.
-do- Accum	676.10	723.10	- 7.60	.
Capital Tst	396.10	421.40	- 6.30	1.09
-do- Accum	581.90	619.00	- 9.40	1.09
Contl Smlr Cos	59.49	63.41	+ 0.03	1.31
-do- Accum	63.29	67.46	+ 0.04	1.31
Convertible	144.50	153.70	..	5.10
-do- Accum	312.80	332.80		5.10
Emerging Markets	61.95	66.19†	+ 0.18	0.30
-do- Accum	62.45	66.72†	+ 0.17	0.30
European	149.70	158.60	.	0.50
-do- Accum	158.60	168.10		0.50
Extra Income	395.70	421.00	+ 0.50	4.45
-do- Accum	630.10	670.30	+ 0.60	4.45
Financial	177.00	188.30†	.	0.46
-do- Accum	188.10	200.10†		0.46
Gilt Trust	63.60	65.58	- 0.05	6.65
-do- Accum	98.91	101.99	- 0.10	6.65
Health Fund Inc	247.60	264.50†	- 2.00	...
-do- Accum	247.60	264.50†	- 2.00	...
Income & Growth	228.00	242.60†	+ 0.50	3.61
-do- Accum	368.40	391.90†	+ 0.80	3.61
Intl Growth	426.90	455.20†	- 1.30	...
-do- Accum	474.00	505.50†	- 1.40	
Japan & Gen	152.50	162.10	- 1.10	
-do- Accum	154.00	163.90	- 1.00	
Monthly Inc #	200.00	212.80†	+ 0.30	4.38
-do- Accum #	201.20	214.00†	+ 0.30	4.38
Managed Port Inc	118.10	125.60	- 0.20	1.43
-do- Accum	129.40	138.20	- 0.10	1.43
Quarterly Income #	56.79	60.85†	+ 0.04	5.28
-do- Accum #	65.82	70.56†	+ 0.07	5.28
Recovery	332.00	355.10	- 1.80	...
-do- Accum	391.80	419.10	- 2.20	..
UK Growth	67.56	71.87	+ 0.10	2.76
-do- Accum	73.26	77.94	+ 0.11	2.76

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FP American	62.28	66.39†	- 0.42	0.08
FP Am Smlr Cos	199.50	212.80†	- 2.10	...
FP Asian Growth	280.80	299.30	- 2.20	...
FP Australian	408.70	435.90	- 2.90	...
FP Equity Dist	459.90	490.50†	- 1.20	2.54
-do- Accum	£10.26	£10.94	- 3.00	2.54
FP Euro Gth	290.60	309.90	+ 0.20	
-do- Accum	317.90	339.00	+ 0.20	..
FP Intl Bond	57.64	60.99	- 0.12	4.23
FP Intl Gth Dist	37.59	40.09†	- 0.16	0.06
-do- Accum	55.21	58.89	- 0.23	0.06
FP Pac Basin Acc	214.30	228.50†	- 2.38	
FP Income #	57.97	61.83†	- 0.22	5.02
-do- Accum #	208.00	219.70	- 0.80	5.02
FP Jap Smlr Cos	262.90	280.40	- 2.40	..
FP Monthly Dist #	75.55	80.58†	- 0.29	5.02
FP Stlg Deposit	100.80	100.80†		5.30
FP Tokyo	73.18	78.03	- 0.66	
FP UK Focus	42.65	45.49†	- 0.04	1.91
FP UK Growth	201.40	214.80	- 0.70	2.29
-do- Accum	405.80	432.90	- 1.50	2.29
Stewardship Dist	431.60	460.30†	- 0.70	1.36
-do- Accum	545.30	581.60	- 1.00	1.36
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	78.77	84.02†	- 0.34	4.84
-do- Accum #	109.40	116.68	- 0.51	4.84
N Am Stwdp Dist	127.30	135.70	- 1.20	0.27
-do- Accum	136.70	145.80	- 1.30	0.27
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	103.30	103.80	+ 0.50	3.50
Inst Ethical Ac #	103.30	103.80	+ 0.50	3.50
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	127.70	135.80†	- 0.50	1.49
Open Cap Gth Acc	129.90	138.10†	- 0.70	0.17
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	118.50	126.00	- 0.40	3.20
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	125.50	133.60	- 0.30	3.20
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	121.90	128.60	- 0.50	3.94
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	130.10	138.40	- 0.60	3.94

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 108/7

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CANDA	292.70	310.60†	- 1.70	1.93
Cash	48.59	50.30†		4.81
Growth Portfolio	88.21	93.84	- 0.40	0.54
Income Portfolio	71.03	75.38†	- 0.32	3.25

GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD
0171 238 6441

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	221.10	236.50	- 0.50	0.32
Dividend	99.58	106.50	- 0.50	4.54
Int Gth & Inc	249.30	266.60	- 0.80	2.80
UK & Gen	50.25	53.74	- 0.19	1.54
Fund of Funds	74.80	80.00	- 0.36	.

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Smlr Cos	237.49	253.90	- 2.30	0.13
European Gth	729.20	775.90	- 1.50	0.61
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	53.89	57.17	- 0.03	5.28
-do- Accum	61.29	64.90	- 0.04	5.28
Far East & Gen	265.90	284.40	- 2.30	.
High Yield #	49.97	52.83†	- 0.29	7.92
-do- Accum #	55.97	59.17	- 0.33	7.92
Income Inc	198.10	211.90	- 0.58	4.08
-do- Accum	226.40	242.20	- 0.60	4.06
Intl Growth	385.00	410.80	- 1.90	0.30
Intl Income	94.04	99.61	- 0.23	2.74
Japan Growth	413.10	439.00	- 2.60	.
Orient Acc	198.70	212.40	- 1.10	0.14
UK General Inc	196.60	210.30	- 0.50	1.57
UK General Acc	351.30	375.80	- 1.00	1.57
UK Sm Cos Dv Acc	59.55	63.68	- 0.01	1.82
UK Spec Sits	102.30	109.50	- 0.30	1.50
US Growth	186.80	198.60	- 2.00	.
Wwide Spec Sits	168.30	179.10	- 0.60	.

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	61.19	65.33	+ 0.04	2.01
Cash Trust	147.48	147.48†	+ 0.02	5.23
Practical Inv Inc #	122.76	131.29	- 0.09	3.66
-do- Accum #	297.03	317.88	- 0.22	3.66
UK Index	181.48	182.39	+ 0.38	3.27
UK Smaller Cos	206.58	220.94	+ 0.04	0.17
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.79	25.69	- 0.06	7.36
High Income	34.72	37.02†	+ 0.01	4.89
UK Equity Income	167.06	172.41	+ 0.36	3.12
Global Bond	28.69	29.74	- 0.01	4.77
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	44.42	47.51	- 0.36	..
Global Managed	147.85	156.90	- 0.66	1.24
Gold & Intl Res	104.89	112.18	- 0.49	.
Global Utilities	142.50	152.18†	- 0.59	1.30
Overseas Funds				
American	203.30	215.76	- 1.39	0.53
European	136.44	144.69	+ 0.21	0.65
Euro Sel Opps	207.36	220.22	- 0.12	.
Amer Emerging	180.30	192.88†	- 0.80	.
Hong Kong	178.59	190.96	- 0.87	1.29
Japan	208.63	221.44	- 1.48	..
Pacific Growth	222.04	238.42	- 1.39	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	261.28	261.28	- 0.22	1.95
Long Term Bal	279.32	279.32	- 0.30	2.99
Med Term Bal	230.85	230.85	- 0.38	2.96
UK Equity	310.69	310.69†	- 0.09	2.51
UK Emerging Cos	179.96	179.96†	+ 0.05	1.97
American	333.71	333.71	- 1.55	0.59
Japan	118.26	118.26	- 1.83	
European	355.17	355.17	+ 0.49	0.84
Index Linked Gilt	188.82	188.82†	- 0.46	2.66
Fixed Interest	179.18	179.18†	- 0.32	6.89
Amer Emerging	396.47	396.47	- 1.57	..
Pacific	232.29	232.29†	- 1.35	0.88
Emerging Mkts	115.20	115.20	- 1.23	0.50
Index Strat Japan	130.01	130.01	- 1.18	0.22
-do- Pacific Bsn	208.65	208.65	- 0.96	1.82
-do- Cont Europe	187.31	187.31	+ 3.26	1.79
Index Strat USA	196.19	196.19	- 1.09	1.46
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	123.40	131.27	- 0.11	
Med Term Bal	110.32	117.35	- 0.17	
Long Term Bal	125.96	134.00	- 0.09	
UK Equity	144.30	153.51	- 0.04	
UK Emerging Cos	84.58	89.97	+ 0.03	
American	154.65	164.52	- 0.76	
Japan	56.54	60.15	- 0.52	..
European	147.59	157.01	+ 0.22	.
Fixed Interest	92.15	98.03	- 0.26	
Index Linked Gilt	84.07	89.43	- 0.22	
Deposit	88.53	94.18	+ 0.01	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	156.81	165.06	- 0.50	0.51
Brkhll Gth Port Inc	73.85	77.73	- 0.50	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	63.95	67.45†	- 0.39	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	59.19	62.47†	- 0.30	0.10

GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gth & Intl Inc	626.47	666.59	-11.45	0.73
-do- Accum	709.73	756.04	-12.93	0.73
European Inc	179.26	190.37	- 0.08	1.02
Amalgam Inc	158.91	168.43		
N America Inc	418.53	445.24	- 4.72	
Far East Inc	356.05	378.78	- 9.15	
-do- Accum	368.01	392.57	- 9.48	
UK Divid Inc	210.58	224.02	- 0.17	2.00

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc #	94.63	101.20†	- 0.30	4.09
UK Small Cos	68.19	72.92†	+ 1.50	0.62
British Growth	69.96	74.82	- 0.10	2.56
American Gwth	277.88	296.98	- 1.20	
Japan Gwth	54.45	58.22	- 0.20	
Greater China	213.86	228.72	- 2.30	.
Pacific Strategy	156.27	167.12	- 1.50	
European Gwth	118.77	127.02†	- 0.30	
Intl Growth	165.47	176.97†	- 0.30	
US Index (£)	18.4282	19.4472	+ 0.13	3.75
FTSE 250 Ind	90.79	97.09	- 0.30	2.12
Monthly Income	40.65	43.43†	- 0.10	6.82
Index & Bear Funds Dealing: 0171 865 0033				
Gvt UK Index (£)	15.4243	16.2325	- 0.10	4.75

GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 488 1212

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Small Cos	105.47	112.20	- 1.32	1.61

GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD
0171 538 9650

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	580.60	620.20†	+ 0.10	0.20
Gilt & Fixed	131.60	139.60	- 0.50	5.76
Growth Equity	439.20	469.20†	- 0.90	1.11
Income Trust	154.30	164.80	- 0.70	4.16
International	206.40	220.50	- 1.30	
Japan Tract	107.80	115.10	- 1.00	..
Nth American	366.00	391.00	- 4.20	
Pacific	576.60	616.00	- 6.50	
Guardfall	645.20	689.30	- 1.10	1.35

GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD
0171 522 2129

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
EMU Tract	104.91	108.86†	- 0.03	4.82
Global High Inc	98.32	102.65	- 0.22	5.43
Corporate Bond	108.00	110.04	- 0.58	6.45
Eqty & Bond Inc	110.92	117.99	- 0.59	5.22
European Growth	129.38	137.56	- 0.28	
Intl PEP Trust	70.18	74.62	- 0.19	
Equity Inc	137.25	145.36†	+ 0.25	4.05
-do- Accum	203.87	216.56	+ 0.35	4.05
Recovery	414.60	440.80	- 1.60	1.75
-do- Accum	495.30	526.60	- 1.90	1.75
St Vinc High Inc	127.74	129.65	- 3.57	7.53
UK Emerg Cos	295.10	313.70†	- 0.50	1.95
UK Smlr Cos	396.30	403.30	- 1.30	1.02
Gltc Pns Tst	119.17	126.71	- 0.35	1.48
-do- Accum	123.89	131.73	- 0.37	1.42
Inc Share Tst	80.98	95.67†	+ 2.11	9.41

HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD
Dealing: 0171 220 5050

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Inc	56.73	60.15	+ 0.14	3.42
Balanced Acc	60.34	63.98	+ 0.15	3.42
Growth	33.86	35.90	+ 0.13	1.94
Growth Acc	35.52	37.13	+ 0.14	1.54
Income	32.12	34.06†	+ 0.18	4.43
Income Acc	34.62	36.71	+ 0.19	4.48
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	26.52	28.73	+ 0.14	3.05

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Provider	100.70	103.50†	- 0.29	6.67
Model Pfolio	243.60	256.50	- 0.50	2.36

HENDERSON INVESTORS
Enquiries: 0645 494949 Dealing: 0645 464646

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	362.32	387.67	+ 1.40	0.51
Best of British	74.38	79.06†	+ 0.20	1.98
UK Smaller Cos	155.69	167.36	+ 0.39	1.11
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	310.38	330.53†	+ 0.67	3.37
-do- Accum #	887.36	945.00	+ 1.23	3.37
High Income	336.81	359.82†	+ 0.42	4.35
Extra Income #	292.69	311.26†	+ 0.41	6.21
Pref & Bond	49.54	51.30†	- 0.06	8.30
International				
Ethical	124.65	133.30	+ 0.36	1.86
International	316.32	336.47†	- 1.61	
Global Bond	54.44	57.71†	- 0.19	5.53
Ind Port Tst	98.91	105.78†	- 0.61	0.64
Global Tech	247.08	265.29†	- 1.01	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	196.02	209.61†	- 2.30	.
European	612.14	649.91†	- 0.70	0.31
European Income #	94.20	99.78	- 0.18	3.36
Euro Smlr Cos	193.16	205.95†	- 1.32	0.07
European Value	93.06	99.20†	- 0.36	0.13
-do- Accum	100.12	106.72	- 0.41	0.13
Japan Trust	199.67	212.09	- 1.19	...
Japan Smlr Cos	197.39	209.97†	- 0.96	
Pacific Smlr Cos	233.43	248.08†	- 1.59	..
North American	329.35	349.28	- 2.17	.
American Smaller	170.50	181.88†	- 1.80	.

HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income & Growth #	162.50	171.10	- 0.60	4.88

HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS
0181 686 4355

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
British	124.22	130.07†	+ 0.21	1.78
Capital	204.38	214.07	- 0.38	1.48
Dollar	522.95	547.59†	- 5.06	.
Enterprise Gth	436.73	457.31	- 0.12	1.05
European	272.80	285.45	+ 0.09	0.67
Far East	308.98	323.52	- 4.24	0.13
Financial	£10.62	£11.12	- 3.84	1.71
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.47	27.53†	- 0.08	6.72
High Yield #	111.25	116.50†	+ 0.29	4.98
Income & Growth #	164.34	172.08†	+ 0.34	3.71
International	290.02	303.73	- 1.92	0.27
Japanese General	184.07	192.74	- 1.88	..
Japan Tech	80.23	84.01	- 0.30	.
Nat Resources	78.81	82.53	- 0.37	0.45
Portfolio	86.41	90.48	- 0.17	1.12
Special Sits	208.95	218.80	+ 0.56	0.15
UK Emerging Cos	130.53	136.68	+ 0.16	0.85
US Smaller Cos	164.73	172.49	- 0.21	...

HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	658.40	702.70	+ 0.50	5.37
UK Growth	720.70	769.20	+ 1.80	2.51
High Income #	118.80	124.60†	- 0.10	5.51
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	637.10	674.20	- 5.50	0.36
European Gwth	145.10	154.30	.	0.11
Japan Gwth	246.10	261.80	- 2.00	
Japan Smlr Cos	29.59	31.51	- 0.13	.
Asian	63.46	67.73	- 0.39	0.18
Sing & Malay Gwth	86.24	92.04	- 0.46	..
Hong Kong Gwth	163.00	173.90	- 1.40	1.01
Global Bond	21.71	22.92	- 0.03	4.80
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	171.30	172.20	+ 0.30	3.23
Trace Index	128.60	131.90	- 0.10	2.14
THE FOOTSIE FUND	66.14	66.47†	+ 0.22	2.92
Index Funds-International				
American Index	294.90	296.40	- 2.10	0.91
Eurotrack 100	199.10	200.10		1.46
Japan Index	68.95	69.30	- 0.88	0.10
Tiger Index	185.00	192.50	- 2.00	0.15

INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	49.54	51.58	+ 0.03	1.41
General Funds				
Managed Dist	88.26	92.41†	- 0.64	1.43
Managed	91.56	95.33†	- 0.69	1.43
Rupert Child Fnd	105.30	109.60	+ 0.50	2.05
UK Growth	72.19	75.16†	+ 0.19	1.87
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	90.46	94.18	+ 0.63	5.38
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.13	29.02	- 0.11	7.30
UK Inc & Gwth	49.01	51.03†	+ 0.06	2.88
UK Income #	381.50	397.60†	+ 0.40	4.36
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	64.45	68.78	- 0.45	0.11
Amer Smlr Cos	162.50	169.20	- 0.90	.
-do- Accum	164.20	171.00	- 1.00	.
Europe Gth	236.30	245.90	- 0.80	
-do- Accum	244.80	254.80	- 0.70	.
Euro Smaller Cos	45.35	47.22†	- 0.13	.
French Growth	96.42	100.10	..	0.08
-do- Accum	104.20	108.20		0.08
H Kong & China	105.80	110.10	- 1.30	0.46
Intl Growth	68.23	70.99†	- 0.17	0.06
-do- Accum	69.52	72.39†	- 0.18	0.06
Japan Gth	27.69	28.79	- 0.31	..
-do- Accum	27.69	28.79	- 0.31	...
Japan Smaller Cos	33.07	34.39	- 0.27	..
Glob Emrg Mkts	89.61	93.30	- 0.73	.
-do- Accum	90.25	93.96	- 0.74	0.11
SE Asia	346.20	360.40	- 2.60	0.17
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	51.58	53.17†	+ 0.06	5.98

JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Sector Value Inc #	105.40	111.20†	- 0.78	3.71
Sector Value Gwth	106.90	112.70†	- 0.40	2.02
Hy 5 Europe	101.40	105.50†	+ 0.30	2.87
Slater Gwth	179.90	189.99	+ 0.50	0.47
New Japan	90.92	95.87	- 0.42	.

JUPITER UT MGRS LTD
0171 581 3020

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
World Health	200.40	213.10	- 2.90	
Income #	222.43	236.62	- 0.07	4.31
UK Growth	86.95	92.49	- 0.18	1.85

My Hen stock has great liquidity.

Famously smooth, with a subtle blend of flavours – a real asset in your drinks portfolio.

A most Gratifying Ale.

Brewed by Morland of Abingdon. Est'd. 1711.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	85.50	90.95	- 0.57	0.45
Ecology	102.05	108.56†	+ 0.27	0.87
European	207.102	220.31	- 0.21	0.56
Far Eastern	302.40	321.70	- 2.90	.
UK Special Sits	54.19	57.80†	- 0.05	

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS
Dealers: 0171 956 7354

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	101.00	104.30†	- 0.60	7.13
Euro Pns Inc	100.40	106.80	+ 0.60	2.75
-do- Accum	100.40	106.80	+ 0.60	2.75
Gilt Yield	118.70	125.20†	- 0.20	6.46
Global Income	232.50	247.30†	- 0.40	3.58
High Yield	156.40	166.40	+ 0.90	5.80
-do- Accum	518.40	551.50	+ 2.80	5.80
Money Market	98.08	98.98†	+ 0.01	7.00
Smlr Cos Div	60.91	64.80†	- 0.08	3.49
Tomorrows Co Ex Acc	10.00	10.00	..	
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	156.80	166.80	- 1.90	.
Asian Growth	322.60	341.10	- 3.60	.
-do- Accum	376.50	400.90	- 3.60	.
North American	112.50	119.70	- 0.96	0.22
European Special	126.20	134.30	+ 0.20	1.24
European	178.40	189.80†	+ 0.90	0.51
-do- Accum	236.30	251.40†	+ 1.20	0.51
Global Eqty Inc	121.80	129.20	+ 0.60	1.91
Japan	362.30	385.40	- 3.00	.
Japanese Special	196.30	208.80	- 1.10	.
Smaller Cos	146.60	156.20†	+ 3.40	1.07
UK Equity Growth	52.03	55.41	+ 0.17	1.80
UK Index Inc	340.50	342.20†	+ 2.00	3.88
Benham Tst	108.00	114.60†	- 0.90	2.19
-do- Accum	107.50	115.60†	- 0.90	2.19

LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Bridge Income	308.58	328.70†	+ 0.51	4.97
Esh Growth	99.37	105.71		1.42
Inc & Growth Inc	70.29	74.78	..	3.70
Smaller Cos	90.67	96.46	- 0.04	1.23

LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01277 690 432

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Cap	461.90	490.10	+ 0.80	2.20
Uk Inc/Gth #	481.50	510.90	- 1.10	4.20
UK Income #	342.42	363.30†	+ 0.80	5.00
UK Sm Cos	309.70	331.20	+ 0.40	1.59
Euro Gwth	162.70	172.80†		0.46
N Amer Gwth	124.10	121.70	- 1.40	.
Japan Growth	53.77	57.05	- 0.51	

LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 305

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Dist ⓖ	591.40	591.40†	+ 1.30	2.88
-do- Accum ⓖ	£12.24	£12.24†	+ 3.00	2.88
Equity Income ⓖ#	107.20	107.20	+ 0.40	4.83
UK Tactical APecs ⓖ	67.49	67.49†	+ 0.15	4.07
European ⓖ	143.90	143.90†	- 0.30	0.96
Far Eastern ⓖ	223.60	223.60†	- 1.70	
Fixed Interest ⓖ	54.42	54.42†	- 0.37	7.31
Gilt ⓖ	91.52	91.58	- 0.15	6.42
Global Growth ⓖ	81.37	81.37†	- 0.75	0.31
Intl Bond ⓖ	51.59	51.59†	- 0.08	4.98
Japanese ⓖ	63.67	63.67†	- 0.37	
North American ⓖ	228.70	228.70	- 1.30	0.63
Pacific Growth ⓖ	121.30	121.30	- 0.80	0.26
UK Index ⓖ	77.88	77.88	+ 0.17	3.17
UK Recovery ⓖ	116.50	116.50†	+ 0.20	2.02
UK Smaller Cos ⓖ	160.60	160.60	- 0.10	1.25
US Index ⓖ	86.46	86.43†	- 0.53	1.21
European Index ⓖ	90.93	90.93†	- 0.05	1.61
Japan Index ⓖ	35.45	35.45†	- 0.35	
Worldwide ⓖ	98.27	98.27†	- 0.08	1.52

LINCOLN FUND MGRS
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Growth	59.63	63.62†	+ 0.12	2.25
Income	66.78	71.42	- 0.05	4.05
Far East	50.46	53.96	- 0.28	0.09
North American	133.95	142.60	- 0.63	
Global	114.21	124.90	- 0.40	0.42
European	96.53	103.20	+ 0.10	1.04
Japan	83.60	85.94	- 0.61	
Intl Currency Bd	57.90	61.34	- 0.02	4.52
SE Asia	108.62	116.10	- 0.90	0.49
UK Cap Growth	104.21	111.43	+ 0.20	2.61
Recovery Trust	90.47	96.75†	+ 0.35	1.26
Managed	74.21	80.01	- 0.17	1.26
Cash	51.58	51.58	+ 0.01	4.56

LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Helpdesk: 01634 834 330 Dealing: 01634 834 313

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced	411.00	437.30†	- 1.20	2.11
-do- Accum	950.30	1010.85	- 3.00	2.11
Cont Euro Sit	79.93	84.14†	- 0.11	0.39
-do- Accum	83.55	88.11	- 0.12	0.39
Extra Inc	282.30	301.40†	- 4.00	3.86
-do- Accum	793.50	840.30	- 11.40	3.88
FTSE 100 Inc	133.20	131.10	- 0.20	2.57
FTSE 100 Acc	129.60	136.90	- 0.20	2.57
German Gth	140.00	147.43	+ 0.40	
-do- Accum	146.80	154.60	+ 0.40	
Growth Port	668.20	711.70	+ 6.30	0.08
-do- Accum	697.10	741.70	+ 6.50	0.08
High Interest Inc	99.49	103.10†	- 0.70	7.45
High Interest Acc	107.10	111.50	- 0.80	7.45
Hi Reserve Inc #	117.50	124.27	- 0.40	6.20
Hi Reserve Acc #	117.90	125.50	- 0.50	6.20
Income	554.40	589.80	- 8.20	5.17
-do- Accum	£15.86	£16.88	- 22.00	3.17
Income Port	567.90	603.20	- 2.10	4.29
-do- Accum	641.60	682.60	- 2.30	4.29
Japan Growth	91.85	97.72	- 0.94	.

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	92.17	98.06	- 0.64	...
Master Trust	68.27	72.63	- 0.23	1.49
-do- Accum	78.83	83.87	- 0.28	1.40
Millennium Acc	97.08	103.20		2.32
N American Gen	255.48	272.80	- 1.20	..
-do- Accum	296.80	315.80	- 1.40	...
Nthn Sm Co Rec	198.70	211.40	- 0.80	...
-do- Accum	202.80	215.80	- 0.70	...
Pacific Basin	253.20	269.40	- 4.10	...
-do- Accum	269.70	287.80	- 4.30	...
Small Cos Rec	526.70	554.50†	- 0.60	1.85
-do- Accum	727.60	765.90	- 0.80	1.85
UK Eq Gth	168.50	177.20	- 0.60	2.55
UK Eq Inc	130.20	138.62	- 0.40	3.08
UK Growth	106.60	113.50	- 1.40	1.92
-do- Accum	133.80	142.40	- 1.80	1.92
Worldwide Gth	351.20	373.70	- 3.70	0.36
-do- Accum	519.10	552.30	- 5.40	0.36

LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT
01392 282 973

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	90.28	95.72	- 0.93	0.70
General	109.80	116.52†	- 0.23	2.90
Income	73.63	79.09	- 0.13	5.80
International	72.98	76.21	- 0.50	0.50
Japan	50.50	54.16	- 0.68	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	76.08	81.64	- 0.41	1.00

M & G SECURITIES
Cust. Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer & General	532.70	562.70	- 4.80	0.30
-do- Accum	665.70	704.40	- 6.00	0.30
Amer Recovery	616.40	651.80†	- 6.10	0.11
-do- Accum	712.90	753.80†	- 7.10	0.11
Amer Smlr Cos	169.40	179.10	- 1.80	.
-do- Accum	173.10	183.00	- 1.80	.
Australasian	214.80	227.20	- 0.20	2.09
-do- Accum	269.80	285.40	- 0.20	2.09
Capital	979.30	1035.80	+ 1.00	2.93
-do- Accum	1169.20	1236.50	+ 1.20	2.93
Charifund	773.80	781.60†	+ 3.80	5.83
-do- Accum	4043.00	4083.50†	+18.80	5.83
Commodity	464.80	491.50	- 3.90	0.23
-do- Accum	687.30	726.90	- 5.70	0.23
Compound Gwth	1118.20	1182.50	+ 1.90	2.77
-do- Accum	1235.20	1306.30	+ 2.00	2.77
Corporate Bond	26.04	26.14	- 0.18	7.40
Dividend	43.90	46.40†	+ 0.20	4.84
-do- Accum	199.00	210.60†	+ 1.00	4.84
Equity Income	330.50	349.50	+ 0.90	5.80
-do- Accum	458.30	484.60	+ 1.20	5.80
Euro & General	628.20	664.30	+ 1.40	0.74
-do- Accum	806.80	853.20	+ 1.90	0.74
Euro Dividend	81.70	86.40	+ 0.30	3.55
-do- Accum	103.90	110.00	+ 0.40	3.55
Euro Smlr Cos	51.30	54.20	+ 0.10	0.50
-do- Accum	51.30	54.20	+ 0.10	0.50
Extra Yield	467.70	494.60	+ 2.70	5.01
-do- Accum	1581.80	1673.10	+ 9.20	5.01
Fund of Inv Tsts	715.50	756.80†	- 0.70	1.89
-do- Accum	1382.20	1461.50†	- 1.80	1.89
General	71.00	75.10	+ 0.30	3.78
-do- Accum	209.20	221.30	+ 0.90	3.78
Gilt Income	62.24	62.33†	- 0.31	7.00
-do- Accum	191.44	191.73†	- 0.94	7.00
Gold	71.00	75.10	- 0.80	0.31
-do- Accum	84.90	89.90	- 0.90	0.31
High Income	33.20	35.10†	+ 0.10	4.79
-do- Accum	144.50	152.98†	+ 0.50	4.79
Intl Growth	90.10	95.30	- 0.20	0.61
-do- Accum	159.40	168.60	- 0.50	0.61
International Inc	110.90	117.30	+ 0.20	4.51
-do- Accum	178.00	188.30	+ 0.30	4.51
Japan & Gen	35.50	37.50†	- 0.20	..
-do- Accum	38.10	40.20†	- 0.30	..
Japan Smlr Cos	127.80	135.20	- 0.30	...
-do- Accum	128.70	136.10	- 0.30	...
Managed Gwth	27.10	28.80	.	1.85
Managed Income	29.90	31.40†	..	4.20
Midland	80.30	83.80	- 0.20	3.31
-do- Accum	212.80	224.80	- 0.80	3.31
Pension Ex	1073.50	1100.40	+ 4.20	4.30
Recovery	47.30	50.00	...	3.10
-do- Accum	81.40	86.00		3.10
Second General	75.90	80.30	- 0.10	3.99
-do- Accum	205.80	217.70	- 0.30	3.99
Smaller Cos	68.00	71.90	- 0.10	3.84
-do- Accum	140.70	148.90	- 0.20	3.84
Sth East Asia	401.50	424.60	- 3.20	1.09
-do- Accum	537.80	568.70	- 4.30	1.09
Treasury	25.13	25.18†	..	5.83
Trustee	43.00	45.50	- 0.10	5.40
-do- Accum	188.00	198.90	- 0.40	5.40

MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Growth	99.89	106.17	- 0.01	0.86
Intl Bond	63.01	66.19†	+ 0.14	5.07
Intl-Equity Growth	85.42	90.78†	- 0.38	0.67
N Amer Growth	140.50	149.25	- 1.11	0.73
Special Sits Growth	28.33	30.13	+ 0.04	2.20
UK Growth	456.85	485.85	- 0.70	2.71
-do- Accum	644.98	685.82	- 0.96	2.71

MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD
01620 825867

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced Fd #	1486.20	1488.10†	..	2.90
Income #	1057.40	1078.20	...	4.80

MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 222 4242

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Maldon General	168.30	172.10	...	3.52

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD
0800 363432

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
M & S Inv Pfolio	180.30	185.90	+ 0.30	2.48
-do- Accum	214.00	220.70	+ 0.52	2.48
UK Sel Pfolio	159.18	164.16†	+ 1.09	2.55
-do- Accum	193.80	199.80†	+ 1.20	2.55
UK 100 Cos	118.40	118.40	+ 0.90	2.85
-do- Accum	120.60	120.60	+ 0.90	2.85

MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD
01204 364 842

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	73.72	78.43	- 1.48	3.52

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0131 479 4646

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Income	83.20	88.32†	- 0.33	3.47
European	105.60	112.10	- 0.10	0.65
Income #	84.22	89.41†	- 0.51	4.89
Nth American	100.90	107.10	- 0.80	0.15
Far East	177.10	188.09	- 0.30	0.27
Japan	57.82	61.17	- 0.24	
Emrgng Mkts	82.63	88.37	- 0.84	0.02
Intl Growth	128.80	136.70	- 0.70	0.31
UK Growth	122.90	130.50†	- 0.40	2.61
UK Smlr Co	61.23	65.00†	- 0.17	0.95
Asia Pacific	37.71	40.33	- 0.23	0.33
Glob Gwth PEP	61.41	65.18	- 0.09	1.32

MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0161 831 7433

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Select Portfolio	108.50	107.00	- 1.10	..

MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Income	465.46	495.17	+ 1.62	4.58
Global Inc	75.42	80.23	- 0.25	4.36
Brit Leaders	396.12	421.40	+ 0.88	3.60
Intl Leaders	237.64	252.81	- 1.05	1.43
PAM Mg Bal Gth	71.96	74.76	- 0.34	0.45

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD
Dealing: 0800 445522

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	278.40	293.80†	- 1.90	
-do- Accum	297.70	314.20†	- 2.00	
American Oppc	127.10	135.50	- 1.40	
-do- Accum	128.70	137.30	- 1.40	...
British Blue Chip	97.90	104.00	- 0.20	2.31
-do- Accum	127.10	135.00	- 0.20	2.31
Cash	100.70	100.70	..	5.52
-do- Accum	149.50	149.50		5.52
Emerging Mkts	121.50	130.60	- 0.90	0.11
-do- Accum	122.90	132.20	- 1.00	0.11
European Growth	324.60	343.70	- 0.90	0.13
-do- Accum	354.00	374.70	- 1.00	0.13
European Income	91.84	97.16	+0.020	2.96
-do- Accum	132.10	139.70		2.96
General	616.30	655.40	+8.900	1.89
-do- Accum	1261.00	1340.00	+2.000	1.89
Global Bond	131.90	138.60	- 0.20	5.28
-do- Accum	175.30	184.10	- 0.30	5.28
Gold & General	205.10	220.10	-0.200	0.41
-do- Accum	212.20	227.80	+0.200	0.41
Govt Securities	94.11	97.03†	- 0.30	6.15
-do- Accum	202.10	208.30†	- 0.60	6.15
High Yield Bd	102.10	104.60†	- 0.70	7.10
-do- Accum	109.90	112.60†	- 0.80	7.10
Income	189.90	201.70†	- 0.60	4.17
-do- Accum	317.20	336.90†	- 1.20	4.17
Inc Portfolio #	113.40	120.10	- 0.30	4.77
-do- Accum #	123.70	131.00	- 0.40	4.77
Intl Oppc	542.70	578.90†	- 3.00	0.15
-do- Accum	734.60	783.80†	- 3.90	0.15
Japan	155.30	165.10	- 1.50	
-do- Accum	159.40	169.50	- 1.50	...
New Europe	239.30	255.30	- 1.00	0.79
-do- Accum	248.10	265.70	- 1.10	0.79
Pacific	113.80	121.40	- 1.10	0.84
-do- Accum	122.80	130.80	- 1.20	0.84
Recovery	453.00	488.50†	- 1.20	0.53
-do- Accum	604.60	644.50†	- 1.40	0.53
UK Smaller Cos	64.85	69.17	+0.030	0.74
-do- Accum	74.67	79.66	+0.030	0.74
Portfolio	94.77	100.40	- 0.30	2.30
-do- Accum	116.70	123.60	- 0.40	2.30
Managed Gth	119.50	125.10†	- 0.40	1.02
Managed Inc	115.90	123.33†	- 0.30	3.04

METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD
01707 662 233

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Euroguwth Plus	154.44	164.30	- 0.97	- 0.14
Portfolio	81.46	86.66†	- 0.27	1.38
UK Income Inc	91.86	97.72	- 0.31	4.84

MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Balanced	69.41	72.68	- 0.05	2.70
-do- Accum	77.01	80.64	- 0.05	2.70
British Tst	107.80	112.90	+ 0.20	2.42
-do- Accum	129.00	135.10	+ 0.20	2.42
Corp Bond Inc	100.40	104.00†	- 0.40	6.65
-do- Accum	104.10	107.80†	- 0.40	6.65
Extra High Inc	70.96	74.30		7.01
-do- Accum	152.80	160.00		7.01
FTSE 100 Acc	70.85	74.18	+ 0.24	2.73
FTSE 100 Dist	66.53	69.66	+ 0.23	2.73
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.97	58.19†	- 0.07	6.36
-do- Accum	180.40	187.70†	- 0.20	6.36
High Yield	237.10	248.30†	+ 0.10	5.24
-do- Accum	663.70	695.00†	+ 0.20	5.24
Income	326.20	341.60	+ 0.10	3.91
-do- Accum	766.00	802.10	+ 0.30	3.91
Money Market UT	49.44	49.44†		4.95
-do- Accum	83.60	83.60†		4.95
Monthly Income	94.22	98.66†	+ 0.04	4.34
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	135.50	144.10	+ 0.20	1.36
European Growth	133.80	141.60	- 1.00	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	101.30	107.50	- 0.10	5.18
Income	105.40	112.10	...	2.28
Japan Growth	44.48	47.14	- 0.12	...
Managed	94.00	99.46	- 0.02	1.96
Money Market	98.32	102.10	....	3.94
North American	114.10	120.90	- 0.80	0.37
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	122.90	130.70	+ 0.20	1.35
European Growth	125.58	133.00	+ 0.90	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Inc	95.54	101.30	- 0.10	5.19
Income	103.39	109.90	+ 0.10	2.34
Japan Growth	44.32	46.98	- 0.12	...
Managed	89.65	95.01	- 0.04	1.93
Money Market	88.78	94.11	+ 0.01	3.98
North American	102.90	109.60	- 0.70	0.45
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	121.80	129.60	+ 0.20	1.35
European Growth	122.80	130.20	+ 0.90	...
Gilt & Fixed Inc	85.61	90.80	- 0.10	5.44
Income	100.30	106.70	+ 0.10	2.40
Japan Growth	45.31	48.02	- 0.12	..
Managed	83.30	88.62	- 0.04	1.98
Money Market	80.65	85.48	...	4.07
North American	115.30	122.20	- 0.80	0.34

MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Gwth	479.80	509.50†	- 5.20	...
European Gth Inc	556.10	607.90†	+ 0.30	...
-do- Accum	574.30	614.50†	+ 0.30	...
Intl Gwth	229.50	243.80†	- 1.10	..
UK Equity Inc	224.70	239.30	+ 0.50	3.82
Do. Accum	306.60	326.60	+ 0.70	3.82
UK Ind Trckr Inc	197.00	210.20	+ 0.50	3.08
-do- Accum	242.70	260.18	+ 0.70	3.08
US-Eq Ind Trk Inc	286.30	303.00	- 1.90	0.78
Japan Tracker	64.74	68.27†	- 0.66	..
Asian Tracker	228.80	244.30	- 1.40	0.15
Mngd Pfolio Inc	188.50	201.20†	- 1.10	1.86
Mngd Pfolio Acc	206.70	220.70†	- 1.20	1.86
Deposit Inc	99.99	99.99†	+ 0.01	5.37
Europe	282.10	301.20	- 1.10	.
Genesis	211.80	226.60†	+ 0.10	2.46
High Income	20.83	22.08	+ 0.02	10.00

MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT
0345 090 933

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Acumen	109.60	111.90	- 0.20	1.81
Acumen Inc	99.36	101.50	- 0.10	1.81
Acumen Reserve	95.73	97.70	- 0.44	6.99
-do- Inc	74.63	75.28	- 0.34	6.99
American Growth	70.11	72.00	- 0.76	...
Equity Income #	105.00	107.70†	- 0.20	4.49
European	81.82	83.22	- 0.42	0.48
Smaller Cos	90.47	94.94†	- 0.21	1.20
W'wide Eqty	77.48	79.11	- 0.34	.
Global Bond	43.28	43.72†	- 0.13	5.40
UK Growth	115.80	118.70	+ 0.30	1.31
Pacific Growth	123.50	127.10	- 0.50	0.36
Japan Growth	85.34	87.77	- 0.80	.

NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Avon Equity	151.27	160.93	+ 1.14	2.62

N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
0161 839 8262

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Growth	91.69	97.46	+ 0.15	2.20
UK Income	127.93	136.09†	+ 0.35	4.23
Higher Income	249.85	265.57	+ 0.68	4.29
Smaller Cos	105.47	112.29	- 0.06	1.43
International	111.11	118.19†	+ 0.01	1.41

NPI INVESTMENT MGRS
0171 623 4200

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Dist	134.70	143.90†	- 0.70	0.08
European Dist	149.00	158.50†	+ 0.40	0.27
Far East Dist	186.70	198.60	- 1.50	.
Global Care Dist	85.97	91.46†	- 0.10	0.36
Oseas Dist	1144.10	1217.10	- 3.60	..
-do- Accum	1486.90	1581.80	- 4.80	..
UK Dist	432.80	460.40†	+ 0.80	1.83
-do- Accum	888.30	945.00	+ 1.59	1.83
UK Extra Inc Dist	96.67	102.84	+ 0.10	2.90
Wwide Dist	118.20	125.70	- 0.60	.
Wwide Inc Dist	88.47	94.12	+ 0.10	1.38

NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Dlg: 01277 690 280 Admin Enq: 01277 690 300

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Europe Inc	80.34	84.79	+ 0.12	0.71
Fund of Funds Inc	70.09	73.97	- 0.02	1.78
North America Inc	70.35	74.25	- 0.39	0.34
UK Equity Gth Inc	69.28	73.12†	- 0.02	2.76
-do- Accum	75.48	79.66	- 0.02	2.76
UK General Inc	67.95	71.71	+ 0.18	2.84
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.61	51.30	- 0.04	6.05
UK Income Inc	67.05	70.77†	+ 0.13	4.21

NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	55.22	58.74	- 0.92	..
-do- Accum	55.65	59.20	- 0.92	..
Bond	126.82	134.56†	- 0.51	5.26
Cash Income	50.24	50.24†	+ 0.01	5.29
-do- Accum	68.63	68.63†	+ 0.01	5.29
Distributor	103.67	110.28†	+ 0.20	3.12
European	55.63	59.18	- 0.35	..
Foundation	109.08	116.05	+ 0.27	2.03
General Inc	218.58	232.53	+ 0.11	1.69
General Acc	220.77	234.86	+ 0.11	1.69
Global	376.47	400.50	- 0.14	.
Growth Inc	143.46	152.61	+ 0.29	2.31
Growth Acc	147.19	156.58	+ 0.30	2.31
Higher Income Inc	32.51	34.58	+ 0.06	4.58
-do- Accum	39.61	42.13	+ 0.07	4.58
Income	267.53	284.71	+ 0.67	3.45
Intrepid	140.06	145.89†	..	1.77
Japan	25.31	26.92	- 0.45	...
Oriental Inc	147.03	158.41	- 1.31	0.23
-do- Accum	152.29	162.01	- 1.36	0.23
Pers Int Gwth	36.29	38.60	- 0.08	...

NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD
0191 285 2555

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
High Income #	49.02	51.87	- 0.17	8.22
UK Growth	115.10	121.80	...	2.67

NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS
01603 682 234

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Master Trust	142.11	149.59†	- 0.52	7.00
UK Equity	172.80	181.05	+ 0.25	2.85
UK Equity Income	153.16	161.22†	+ 0.28	3.26
UK Smaller Cos	142.21	149.69	- 0.04	1.52
UK Equity Growth	155.73	163.93†	+ 0.04	1.08
UK Index Trckg	176.73	180.24	+ 0.37	2.85
Intl Index Trckg	170.57	180.02	- 1.11	0.85
International	275.09	289.57†	- 1.42	0.83
European	250.77	263.97	+ 0.24	0.32
Pan European	166.77	175.55†	+ 0.25	1.38
Nth American	247.33	260.95†	- 2.35	0.02
N Amer Smlr Cos	255.91	269.38	- 1.46	.
Japanese	84.25	88.68†	- 0.62	.
Pacific	236.89	249.31†	- 1.98	0.49
South East Asian	280.28	295.04†	- 2.23	0.56
Intl Bond	132.46	139.43	- 0.04	3.70
Gilt & Convertible	111.48	117.35	- 0.24	5.98
Property	83.50	87.89†	- 0.03	5.80

OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD
01256 768 888

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European Inc	351.30	377.60	- 0.40	0.08
-do- Accum	373.10	401.10	- 0.40	0.08
Japan Inc	102.20	109.10†	- 0.70	..
Nth American Inc	153.40	163.20	- 0.60	0.61
Worldwide Inc	179.30	192.10	- 0.70	0.01
Hong Kong Inc	191.10	204.20	- 1.80	0.85
Swiss Equities Inc	84.52	90.31	+ 0.59	..
Wwide Bond Inc	67.03	70.85	- 0.03	5.02
Emging Asia Inc	182.80	198.60†	- 0.40	...
-do- Accum	183.30	199.30†	- 0.50	...
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.23	50.23†		5.05
Thailand Inc	109.50	119.00†	- 1.10	1.76
New Zealand Inc	103.70	111.30†	- 0.60	1.96
Int Mngd PEP Inc	72.13	77.33	+ 0.06	0.92
Latin Am Emrg Inc	61.20	65.60	- 1.11	0.80
UK All Sh Idx Inc	71.99	73.17	+ 0.16	2.55
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustee	84.48	90.35†	- 0.29	.
Global Portfolio	74.54	79.72	- 0.25	.
Global Oppo	63.63	68.05	- 0.20	
Marsh Global Gth	65.84	69.82	- 0.17	.
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	111.40	118.00	+ 0.10	...
Temple Equity Inc	49.03	53.14	+ 0.01	3.87
Hadley Growth	112.40	119.60	- 0.30	0.44
Intl Growth Inc	82.58	88.32†	- 0.10	0.45
IFS Portfolio Inc	90.52	96.81	- 0.97	.
Premier Portns Inc	69.30	74.12	+ 0.05	1.39
Roxborough Strat Gth	78.14	83.57†	+ 0.06	0.23
International Strat	82.29	87.54	- 0.34	.
UFC Growth	63.08	67.46	- 0.36	.
Chesfield Port of Fds	53.59	57.83	- 0.03	.
Lowes Intl Growth	50.18	52.82	- 0.15	1.65

PM UT MGRS LTD
0171 588 3963

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Gth	243.60	259.10	- 0.60	1.16
European Gth	131.60	139.60	+ 0.10	0.46
Income & Gth #	162.80	173.20	- 0.40	3.06
Japan Gth	97.23	103.40	- 0.60	..
Nth Amer Gth	220.80	234.90	- 2.30	
Overseas Gth	122.60	130.40	- 0.80	.

PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Dlg: 0800 626 537 Enq: 01733 470 470

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity	280.30	298.00†	- 0.70	2.39
-do- Accum	620.80	659.50	- 1.70	2.39
Growth	184.30	193.87	- 0.50	2.64
Income	272.40	289.70	- 0.70	3.73
Intl Equity	280.90	298.70	- 1.70	0.53
-do- Accum	314.50	334.50	- 1.90	0.53
UK Income	74.78	79.54	- 1.20	3.18
UK Intl 25	95.02	101.00	- 0.40	1.90
New Europe	103.80	110.40	- 0.20	0.08

PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT
01491 417 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Intl Growth Inc	684.12	731.02	- 2.51	0.55
-do- Accum	688.37	735.56	- 2.52	0.55
Income	447.23	478.33	+ 1.32	2.92
Wwide Recovery	442.75	478.88	- 1.50	0.51
Amer Growth Inc	313.09	334.34	- 0.70	0.01
-do- Accum	313.09	334.34	- 0.70	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	283.76	303.49	- 1.82	0.01
Far Estn Gth Inc	304.08	325.22†	- 2.21	1.00
-do- Accum	307.83	329.24	- 2.23	1.00
Euro Gwth Inc	183.15	195.56†	- 0.20	0.39
-do- Accum	183.79	196.23	- 0.21	0.39
UK Growth Inc	118.40	126.64	+ 0.42	2.46
-do- Accum	127.16	136.01	+ 0.45	2.48
High Income	117.95	126.13	+ 0.27	3.58
Jap Gwth Inc	174.77	186.93	- 2.31	0.49
-do- Accum	174.77	186.93	- 2.31	0.49
PEP Bond	54.86	57.37	- 0.25	7.60
PEP Growth	144.15	154.12	- 0.40	0.58
Asian Sm Mkts Inc	135.53	144.96	- 1.63	0.13
-do- Accum	135.85	145.30	- 1.64	0.13
Amer Smlr Co Inc	197.19	210.90†	- 0.39	0.01
-do- Accum	197.19	210.90	- 0.39	0.01
Global Bond	55.49	58.48	- 0.21	5.30
UK Smaller Cos Inc	108.06	115.58	+ 0.18	1.48
-do- Accum	115.11	123.12	+ 0.19	1.48

PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0191 281 3827

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	139.81	149.73†	- 0.71	
European	93.68	99.66	- 0.25	..
Global	69.75	74.20†	- 0.30	...
Pacific	58.43	62.16	- 0.13	
UK Inc & Gth	81.88	87.02	- 0.32	1.85

PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 490

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Asia Acc	48.76	51.87	- 0.37	0.01
Emerg Mkts	45.48	48.19	- 0.56	1.06
Fund of Funds Inc	195.45	208.03	- 1.12	0.58
Fund of Funds Acc	195.90	208.36	- 1.13	0.58
High Income #	55.01	58.21	- 0.20	5.58
Performance	47.96	51.02	- 0.27	

PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01702 740 700

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Principal Tst	179.67	191.14	- 0.23	1.92

PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Income	126.50	134.60	...	3.10
Conv & Gilt	120.70	128.50†		4.80
European Income	87.65	93.26	- 0.06	3.48
Extra Income	186.30	198.20	- 0.10	4.80
-do- Accum	244.10	259.70	- 0.20	4.60
Far East	391.90	416.90	- 3.80	...
-do- Accum	400.30	425.80	- 3.90	...
Global Income	29.47	31.35	- 0.01	3.83
High Income	140.40	149.30†	- 0.10	4.61
-do- Accum	180.00	191.50		4.51
International	209.40	222.70	- 1.50	0.46
-do- Accum	218.10	232.00	- 1.50	0.43
Pref & Fxd Int	45.42	48.33†	- 0.08	7.19
Recovery	90.34	96.10	- 0.27	2.30
Special Sits	150.40	160.00†	...	1.40
-do- Accum	167.80	178.50	..	1.40
Technology	708.30	753.50	- 1.10	...
UK Blue Chip	93.07	95.62	+ 0.01	3.12
-do- Accum	105.50	112.20	..	3.12

PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Managed Tst	46.18	47.86	- 0.06	1.83
Cash Haven Inc	101.18	101.87†	+ 0.01	4.80
Cash Haven Acc	113.73	120.82	+ 0.01	4.80
Dist Trust Inc	107.58	111.46	+ 0.09	5.56
Dist Trust Acc	121.90	126.41	+ 0.10	5.56
Global Growth	106.70	113.51	- 0.21	1.17
Equity Inc	90.52	96.31†	+ 0.31	4.58
Equity	903.01	960.65	+ 1.63	2.36
European	272.98	282.89†	- 0.21	0.81
High Income	93.98	99.89†	+ 0.08	5.07
Intl Gth	223.92	238.21	- 0.82	0.95
Intl Sm Co	96.69	102.74	- 0.17	0.47
Japanese	180.68	197.82	- 1.39	..
Nth Amer	248.15	257.14†	- 1.99	1.27
Pacific Mkts	116.73	122.04	- 0.74	0.51
Popular Inc	48.57	50.55	- 0.03	6.57
Sm Cos	111.71	118.84†	+ 0.14	1.77
Spec Sits	130.03	138.33	+ 0.42	2.73
UK Growth	151.05	160.69	+ 0.31	2.37

QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
0171 407 5966

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Hi Inc Inv Inc	84.59	89.95	- 0.14	3.77
Investment Trust	116.26	122.25	- 0.38	0.61
UK Smaller Cos	105.42	111.90	- 0.12	1.22

RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD
01892 510 033

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
British Life	342.10	362.80	- 1.10	3.17

ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT
Dealers: 0171 628 1090

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	688.30	729.23	- 8.20	0.21
America (Acc)	804.24	854.44	- 9.80	0.21
Amer Smlr Cos	63.04	67.24	- 0.35	..
Asia	54.21	58.17	- 0.45	..
European	416.98	441.93	- 1.82	0.37
Japan	207.29	220.42	- 2.51	...
Jap Smlr Cos	38.11	38.53	- 0.38	...
Major UK Cos	121.28	129.34†	- 0.47	1.79
Smlr UK Cos	411.35	446.03	- 0.50	1.05
UK Equity Inc #	186.84	199.61†	- 0.91	4.35
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	51.63	53.92†	- 0.37	...
Cash	48.04	50.03†		2.94
Emerging Mkts	46.12	48.16†	+ 0.04	...
Europe	62.33	64.98†	- 0.46	...
Global Fixed Int #	50.16	52.38†	- 0.04	5.31
Japan	38.27	39.96†	- 0.25	...
North America	70.00	73.19†	- 0.38	...
UK	66.46	69.40†	- 0.49	0.46
UK Equity Inc #	62.10	64.85†	- 0.45	3.58
UK Fixed Int #	51.00	53.26†	- 0.06	7.28
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Grth-Port	51.39	53.25	- 0.33	...
Pep Inc Port #	51.27	53.12	- 0.30	4.24
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	91.07	95.86	+ 0.01	..
Gilt	103.37	108.80	- 0.30	..
Managed	119.59	125.87	- 0.50	..
Portfolio	50.69	53.35	- 0.36	.

ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
United States	124.40	132.40†	- 1.60	0.32
Pacific Basin	79.00	84.76	- 1.32	0.39
High Inc Dist	161.50	172.60	- 1.60	1.64
Ryl Life Int Cnvy	64.72	68.34	- 0.38	3.84
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	77.51	82.56	- 1.16	0.09
Ryl Life Intl Spec	71.40	75.95	- 0.61	..
UK Emerging Cos	142.10	153.60	- 1.10	1.36
UK Index Trckg	200.20	212.80	- 2.50	3.59
European	171.70	183.70†	- 2.10	0.25
Managed	181.20	194.80	- 2.20	1.01

ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01206 764 400

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American Growth	198.80	211.40	- 3.10	1.16
European Growth	138.09	146.20	- 1.10	1.92
Far East Growth	147.90	157.40	- 1.00	0.79
Japan Growth	114.30	121.50	- 1.10	...
Special Sits	251.20	267.20	- 1.30	1.34
UK Growth	103.50	110.10†	- 1.20	2.83
Trillon General	283.70	301.90	- 3.10	1.70

ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD
0141 307 6500

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Far East Inc	173.90	184.09	- 0.90	0.49
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	428.70	453.80	- 0.09	0.66
-do- Accum	672.40	711.50	- 1.20	0.66
Growth Inc	153.70	162.60	- 0.60	0.79
-do- Accum	158.09	167.29	- 0.60	0.79
International Inc	404.80	428.40	- 1.00	0.72
-do- Accum	560.10	592.70	- 1.50	0.72
Nth Am & Intl Inc	408.00	432.80	+ 0.10	...
UK Gen Prog Inc	260.69	275.80	- 0.40	1.05
-do- Accum	298.58	315.90	- 0.46	1.05
UK High Inc Inc	152.10	161.09	+ 0.10	4.42

SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD
0171 330 0572

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Asian Gwth	123.86	131.76	- 0.79	0.76
European Gwth	92.47	98.37†	- 0.33	1.00
Global Bd	61.20	64.62	- 0.18	5.00
Japan	48.65	51.75	- 0.61	..
UK Gwth	91.77	97.82†	- 0.25	1.75

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amer Smlr Cos	154.30	164.20	- 1.20	.
Cash	138.10	138.10		5.37
China Dragon	71.21	75.76	- 0.67	1.27
Commodity	143.00	152.18	- 0.80	..
Emerging Mkts	34.98	37.19	- 0.25	0.39
European Gwth	242.00	257.40†	- 0.10	0.85
Euro Smlr Cos	73.35	78.03†	+ 0.06	0.34
Extra Income #	57.84	61.12†	- 0.39	[illegible]
Far Eastern	103.70	110.30	- 0.70	..
SE Sm Cos	40.50	43.09	- 0.24	..
Financial Secs	317.50	337.80†	- 1.00	0.75
Gold & Exploration	95.92	101.60	- 0.40	..
Growth	450.20	482.50	- 1.80	1.69
High Income	49.89	53.69†	- 0.27	7.22
Intl Bond	164.50	173.70	+ 0.10	5.65
ITU	237.30	252.40	- 1.60	0.96
Japan Growth	154.50	164.20	- 0.90	..
Japan Smaller	166.00	176.60	- 0.20	..
Korea	37.03	39.39†	- 1.13	..
Latin America	37.85	40.37	- 0.70	0.83
Mastertund	64.49	64.72†	- 0.25	0.99
Premier Eq Gwth	166.50	177.10	- 0.80	2.34
Premier Eq Inc #	365.90	389.30†	- 1.80	4.15
Select Intl	156.60	166.60	- 1.00	1.00
SE Asia	50.42	53.64	- 0.31	0.38
Southern Africa	49.96	53.17	- 0.12	1.53
UK & O'seas	199.70	212.40	- 1.30	1.10
UK Eqty Gth	83.13	88.44	- 0.23	1.38
UK Eqty Inc #	260.20	276.80	- 1.30	4.26
UK Gth & Inc #	298.60	317.70	- 1.40	3.34
UK Sm Cos	80.69	84.55	- 0.17	1.39
US Growth	220.90	235.00	- 1.30	0.07
Univ Growth	160.70	171.09	- 0.80	0.71

SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Cist: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Retail Funds-				
American	350.82	370.69†	- 0.87	0.59
-do- Accum	388.25	410.59†	- 0.97	0.59
European Gwth	93.72	98.20†	+ 0.82	0.76
Euro Smlr Cos	112.17	119.26†	+ 0.01	0.10
Far Eastern Gth	104.04	110.97	- 0.49	...
-do- Accum	106.05	113.12	- 0.49	...
Gilt & Fixed Int #	52.84	55.67	- 0.08	7.72
Global Bond #	49.35	50.99	- 0.02	6.26
-do- Accum #	58.80	60.75	- 0.02	6.26
Global Emer Mkts	52.00	55.56	- 0.33	...
-do- Accum	52.14	55.62	- 0.32	...
Income #	425.17	453.51	+ 2.22	4.84
-do- Accum #	£14.40	£15.36	+ 7.51	4.84
Japan Smlr Cos	369.00	393.60	- 0.70	...
-do- Accum	369.74	394.39	- 0.70	...
Japan Enterprise	57.50	61.33	- 0.63	..
Pacific Gwth	161.85	172.63	- 0.79	0.36
-do- Accum	167.65	178.82	- 0.82	0.36
Portfolio	95.67	101.97	+ 0.29	1.74
-do- Accum	106.41	113.43	+ 0.31	1.74
Seoul	33.10	35.30†	- 0.61	..
-do- Accum	33.10	35.30†	- 0.61	..
Smaller Cos	330.60	352.63†	- 1.10	0.64
Strategic Inc	102.37	108.66	- 0.09	2.82
Strategic Acc	103.22	108.58	- 0.08	2.82
Tokyo	117.00	124.80	- 1.80	..
-do- Accum	118.19	128.06	- 1.01	...
UK Enterprise	344.72	367.70	+ 1.37	2.19
-do- Accum	425.90	454.30	+ 1.69	2.19
UK Equity	308.90	330.55	+ 1.87	2.63
-do- Accum	628.37	668.14	+ 3.78	2.63
US Smlr Cos	230.25	245.60†	+ 0.57	...
-do- Accum	230.25	245.60†	+ 0.57	...
Institutional Funds				
European	289.46	300.25	+ 0.10	1.35
-do- Accum	326.88	339.67	+ 0.11	1.35
Euro Smlr Cos	37.01	38.52†	- 0.15	1.12
-do- Accum	40.11	41.75†	- 0.16	1.12
Global Equity Inc	91.64	95.45†	- 0.55	0.80
Japan Smlr Cos	32.78	34.14	- 0.16	0.46
-do- Accum	33.10	34.48	- 0.16	0.46
Mngd Balanced	226.76	236.20	- 0.21	3.81
-do- Accum	266.47	277.56	- 0.25	3.81
Overseas Equity	217.72	226.79	- 0.92	1.14
-do- Accum	228.39	237.89	- 0.97	1.14
Oseas Smlr Cos	141.65	147.55	- 0.65	0.61
-do- Accum	149.86	156.10	- 0.69	0.61
Pacific	287.50	299.47†	- 1.59	1.25
-do- Accum	320.79	334.16†	- 1.77	1.25
Recovery	£23.61	£24.60	+ 7.23	2.84
-do- Accum	£26.20	£27.29	+ 7.84	2.84
UK Index	186.78	194.56†	+ 0.07	3.45
-do- Accum	243.05	253.10†	+ 0.10	3.45
UK Small Cos	145.64	151.70	+ 0.15	2.42
-do- Accum	161.60	168.41	+ 0.17	2.42
US Smlr Cos	66.00	68.75†	+ 0.05	0.66
-do- Accum	67.81	70.62†	+ 0.04	0.66

SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD
0141 204 2200

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Income	88.41	93.88	- 0.68	2.96
Equity Trust	77.48	81.93	- 1.80	2.81
Equity Strategy	90.31	95.50	- 1.08	1.32
European Opps	106.10	112.20	- 1.05	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	79.00	83.54	- 0.44	1.10
Maximum Inc	99.71	102.32	+ 0.02	8.65
Japanese	67.61	71.50	- 0.59	..
Asia Pacific	124.51	131.67	- 0.84	0.32
American	138.94	146.93	- 1.05	0.12

SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD
0800 454 422

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Cash	33.60	33.59†	.	5.48
UK General Inc	83.66	87.62†	...	3.29
-do- Accum	86.36	91.78†	...	3.29
Intl Income	291.49	310.05†	..	1.68
-do- Accum	515.52	548.41†	..	1.68
European	103.82	109.99†	..	1.78
Japan	58.47	62.52†	..	0.13
American	101.42	107.28†	.	1.25
Far East	87.35	93.18	...	1.34
Ethical Inc	41.18	44.02	...	1.98
UK Blue Chip Inc	40.68	43.44†	..	3.73
High Inc Inc	41.70	44.48†	..	3.90
UK Global Inc	48.94	52.17†	..	2.13
Wwide Tact	83.25	88.66	..	1.86
Europe 2000 Tact	71.25	75.78	..	1.41
Technology	160.10	170.40	...	0.82

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
0131 225 2211

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity	491.40	524.00	+ 1.30	3.15
American	360.80	382.50	- 1.80	0.31
Pacific	394.80	422.20	- 2.80	0.20
European	683.80	730.50	+ 0.60	0.89
Worldwide	181.00	108.00	- 0.70	0.42

SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD
0141 248 6100

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc	332.70	354.00†	..	2.02
-do- Accum	441.90	469.20†	..	2.02
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	279.00	298.90†	...	1.00
-do- Accum	345.00	367.10†	...	1.00
Select Opplty Inc	94.26	98.12	...	1.58
Income Plus Inc	83.07	88.38	...	3.14
European Inc	435.50	463.00	..	0.69
-do- Accum	502.00	533.70	..	0.66
Far Eastern Inc	183.10	194.80	..	0.82
-do- Accum	212.30	225.90	..	0.82
Japanese Inc	54.76	58.23	..	..
Nth American Inc	342.40	364.00	..	0.15
-do- Accum	376.90	402.80	..	0.15
Intl Growth Inc	229.50	244.20†	.	0.21
Wwide Venture Inc	92.50	98.41	..	0.44

SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT
0131 668 3724

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity Inc	454.30	484.50	- 5.00	2.48
-do- Accum	697.00	743.30	- 7.80	2.48
UK High Inc	217.20	231.60	- 2.50	2.59
-do- Accum	337.00	359.40	- 3.90	2.69
Europe Inc	469.80	501.00	- 4.10	0.46
Nth Amer Inc	329.70	351.60	- 2.30	.
Global Inc	252.20	268.90	- 1.50	0.89
Global Acc	272.80	291.80	- 1.60	0.09
UK Spec Sits Inc	132.40	141.20	- 1.20	1.73
South East Asia	228.80	244.08	- 0.20	.
Cash Trust Inc	100.10	100.10	..	5.23
UK Smllr Cos Inc	125.10	133.40	- 0.20	1.73
-do- Accum	131.50	140.30	- 0.10	1.73
Intl Bond Inc	92.09	97.77	+ 0.10	5.26

SHARP (ALBERT E)
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	161.70	170.20	- 0.10	0.63
Nth American	147.30	155.00	- 1.80	
Intl Bond & Conv	127.10	133.80†	- 0.50	6.62
Pooled Pension (C)	236.10	253.90†		2.05
Smaller Cos	117.70	123.90†	+ 0.10	0.93
UK General #	168.10	176.90†	- 0.20	2.14
Far Eastern	90.54	95.30	- 1.14	...

SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD
0171 626 6226

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc ‡	104.07	.	+ 0.49	4.95
Sterling Reserve ‡	101.38	.	+ 0.02	4.75
Preferred Income ‡	102.70	.	- 0.20	5.36
Tal Pan ‡	169.93	.	- 0.49	.
Aztec ‡	65.06		- 0.73	.
Amer Gth Fund ‡	131.45		- 0.99	
European ‡	165.88		+ 0.84	
Global Bond ‡	87.14	..	- 0.57	7.90
Samurai ‡	53.34		- 0.43	
UK Growth ‡	109.06		+ 0.48	2.63
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	107.69	.	- 0.03	2.62
Investment Trust ‡	112.23	..	- 0.10	1.50
Roll Up ‡	96.38		+ 0.01	
Glob Gwth PEP	78.24	83.23	- 0.51	1.18
Inv Trust PEP	57.31	60.98	- 1.27	2.53
Pref Inc PEP #	105.00	111.70	..	5.99

SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS
0171 637 5377

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	447.70	473.80†	- 3.70	..
Capital	144.40	154.40	- 1.60	1.30
Cash	101.02	101.02	+ 0.01	5.31
European	162.80	172.20†	- 1.30	0.90
Far Eastern	155.70	164.70	- 1.00	...
Growth	167.90	177.60	- 2.10	1.08
Income #	140.10	148.20	- 1.40	4.93
Magnum	152.70	163.20	- 1.80	1.36
Smllr Secs	551.60	583.70	- 3.40	0.37
Thoroughbred	177.70	190.19	- 2.20	1.25

SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01202 298 422

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Capital Primacon	57.53	61.49	- 0.08	7.00
Ethical	81.86	87.55	+ 0.26	0.93
European Growth	81.36	86.27	- 0.03	0.44
Income	61.76	66.05†	+ 0.03	3.44
Intl Growth	117.50	118.10	- 0.70	0.07
Managed	90.30	98.88	- 0.31	0.58
UK Growth	77.85	83.26	+ 0.17	1.36

STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS
0800 33 33 53

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	46.60	46.84	- 0.50	1.24
Global Advtg Acc	50.79	51.05	- 0.50	1.24
Income Advtg Inc	36.06	36.25†	- 0.30	2.58
Income Advtg Acc	42.41	42.63	- 0.40	2.58
UK Equity Gth Acc	104.30	110.69	- 0.70	3.83
Premier Inc Inc	48.87	51.85†	- 0.20	6.72
Premier Inc Acc	53.34	56.15	- 0.30	6.72
Managed Acc	64.49	68.27	- 0.60	1.61
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	41.54	44.04	- 0.40	3.66
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	55.37	59.70	- 0.60	3.66
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	79.75	84.74	- 0.90	1.93
UK Equity Gen Inc	57.10	60.67	- 0.70	1.93
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	31.82	33.65	- 0.20	6.56
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	360.70	381.40	- 3.70	1.49
Nth American Acc	58.86	62.54	- 0.80	
Pacific Basin	45.41	48.25	- 0.40	0.24
European Acc	58.38	63.08	- 0.60	0.38
Japan Acc	25.03	26.60	- 0.30	...

STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD
0171 344 7900

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Global A (NZ$)	4.763	5.056	...	7.82
US Eqts (US$)	3.657	3.876	..	0.77
Far East Eqts (yen)	260.70	276.90	...	.
FT Europe	153.30	162.80†	..	1.21
FT N Amer (US$)	2.818	2.986	..	..
FT Japan (yen)	220.60	233.00	...	..
FT Asia Ex-Jap (US$)	3.071	3.262†	..	0.99

STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0131 226 3271

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	547.60	580.00	- 2.30	.
British #	1305.50	1381.20		3.00
Emerging Mkts	157.00	167.20	- 1.10	0.79
Euro Small Co	61.98	66.01	+ 0.09	0.62
Japan	117.50	124.60	- 0.90	...
New Pacific	430.90	458.50	- 0.90	1.13
-do- Accum	473.30	504.10	- 1.00	1.13
Inv Trust Acc	300.20	318.10	- 0.20	1.22
Mngd Equity	207.60	219.90	+ 0.10	1.69
Mngd Cash	96.13	96.13	+ 0.01	5.30

SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 369

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Equity	1098.00	1174.00	+ 1.00	2.59
North America	205.40	219.70	- 1.70	...
Far East	163.60	175.00	- 1.10	
Wwide Bond	57.68	61.22	- 0.08	4.93
European	144.50	154.50	+ 0.30	0.51
Equity Income #	108.90	116.52†	+ 0.28	5.18
Portfolio	112.80	120.60	- 0.10	1.59
UK Leading Cos	80.17	85.61	+ 0.24	3.45
High Inc Bond	50.22	50.29†	- 0.14	6.64
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	75.56	80.81	- 0.22	...

SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD
0800 525 726

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Amdale UK	34.11	35.66†	- 0.11	0.41
Cont Bd Gilt Inc	97.27	103.48	- 0.44	7.05
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	101.86	108.18†	- 0.45	7.05
European	48.22	52.57†	+ 0.10	0.13
High Income	35.40	37.76†	.	4.09
Japan	31.33	33.34†	- 0.25	0.01
Managed Assets	145.47	155.59	- 0.65	2.38
North American	47.17	50.19†	- 0.46	0.38
Smlr Co's Inc	37.31	39.70†	- 0.04	1.75
Smlr Co's Acc	41.00	43.62†	- 0.05	1.75
UK Growth Inc	64.21	68.31	+ 0.10	2.43
UK Growth Acc	72.33	76.95†	+ 0.13	2.43
UK Income	44.87	47.69†	+ 0.04	3.21
Worldwide Gth	41.23	44.10†	- 0.13	0.01
SLC Pensions Funds				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	32.50	33.51†	- 0.12	1.39
European Exmpt	97.19	100.20	+ 0.46	1.16
Japan Exempt	26.58	27.38†	- 0.28	0.16
US Exempt	99.26	102.34†	- 0.64	1.07

SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Discretionary	57.09	60.73	- 0.21	
Cap Protector Inc	48.75	51.86	+ 0.22	2.79
UK Income Inc	62.87	66.03	+ 0.30	3.20
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	35.86	37.92	- 0.06	6.71
Mngd High Yld Inc	91.32	97.15†	+ 0.39	4.40
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	88.06	93.68†	+ 0.41	3.38
UK Smaller Cos	42.22	44.92	+ 0.03	1.67
Pacific Gth Port	51.28	54.55	- 0.46	0.70

TSB UNIT TRUSTS
01264 346 794

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
American	320.11	338.74	- 3.14	...
-do- Accum	352.58	373.17	- 3.45	..
Brit Growth	123.24	130.41	+ 1.84	1.57
-do- Accum	154.14	163.11	+ 2.05	1.57
European	125.39	132.69	+ 0.04	0.35
-do- Accum	133.93	141.73	+ 0.04	0.35
Extra Income #	210.80	223.17	+ 0.61	4.86
-do- Accum #	387.69	410.46	+ 1.13	4.86
Smaller Cos	92.38	97.76	+ 0.09	0.68
-do- Accum	105.91	112.08	+ 0.10	0.68
General	360.58	381.54	+ 0.47	1.79
-do- Accum	770.83	815.48	+ 1.00	1.79
Premier Income	51.78	53.92	- 0.26	6.26
-do- Accum	130.56	136.08	- 0.67	6.26
Income #	378.70	400.74†	+ 0.61	3.08
-do- Accum #	889.83	941.61†	+ 1.91	3.08
Pacific	398.90	422.12	- 6.40	0.05
-do- Accum	419.15	443.54	- 6.73	0.05
International	627.75	664.28†	- 4.27	0.08
-do- Accum	827.14	875.28†	- 5.63	0.08
Nat Resources	178.18	188.55	- 0.97	0.28
Sheld Opps	127.51	134.93	+ 0.12	0.92
-do- Accum	168.36	178.16	+ 0.16	0.92
Environmental Inv	81.64	86.39	+ 0.03	1.02
Selector	74.59	78.93†	+ 0.09	1.37
-do- Accum	87.15	92.23†	+ 0.04	1.37
High Income	70.77	74.89	+ 0.14	4.72
-do- Accum	96.09	101.68	+ 0.19	4.72
Intl Income	82.64	86.29	+ 0.02	4.64
-do- Accum	83.71	88.58	+ 0.03	4.64
Selector Income	66.90	70.89†	+ 0.04	4.31
-do- Accum	85.05	89.99†	+ 0.04	4.31

TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED
0181 657 1018

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
British	415.75	437.60	+ 0.52	2.39
European	76.09	79.68†	+ 0.17	1.46

TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 469 4000

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Glob Growth Inc	238.52	255.21	- 0.86	2.20
Glob Balncd Inc	198.35	212.14	- 0.24	3.25
Value Tst Inc	145.50	155.61†	- 0.44	2.84

THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
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Source: FT Information

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هكذا من الاصل

■ THEATRE 1

In Washington DC, Andrew Lloyd Webber unveils his appealing new musical, *Whistle Down the Wind*

■ THEATRE 2

. . . while a 1930s view of *Midsummer Night's Dream* marks Jonathan Miller's return to the spoken theatre

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ DANCE

Caught on the stairs: Bunty Matthias's new *Viewpoint* promises more than it delivers

■ MUSIC

John Eliot Gardiner directs a memorable performance of J.S. Bach's Mass in B Minor

THEATRE: Lloyd Webber's new musical premiered in America; Miller's Shakespeare unveiled in London

Touching tale sweetly sung

Whistle Down the Wind
National Theatre, Washington DC

In Andrew Lloyd Webber's imaginative world wonderfully preposterous things are always apt to happen. Cats ascend to heaven. Trains race each other round the world. An Old Testament patriarch perpetrates marvels in an amazing dreamcoat.

And, in the attractive and touching musical Sir Andrew unveiled in America on Wednesday, some 20th-century children manage to convince themselves that, just because he gasps "Jesus Christ!" when they find him hiding in a barn, a double murderer is the Messiah returned to earth.

But there are differences here, and with them come problems. *Whistle Down the Wind* does not bounce you as easily as Lloyd Webber's surreal or mythic shows into suspending your disbelief. How could it, when the actress playing Swallow, the children's leader, is almost twice the age of Hayley Mills when she took the role in Bryan Forbes's celebrated film of Mary Haley Bell's novel? Irene Molloy is fresh and pleasing on the ear, but I never quite shed the feeling that even in the 1950s there would have been something awfully dim about a teenager who so ardently continued to worship a Christ whose answer to deep questions was to sing raunchy songs about gamblers.

But since pre-teens can hardly be expected to fill theatres with music, what else are Sir Andrew, librettist Patricia Knop and director Hal Prince to do? Quite a lot, actually. The story has been transposed from northern England to Bible-belt Louisiana, where the adults seem as credulous as Swallow and her tot followers. Up goes a tent, in pounds a revivalist preacher, and suddenly good ol' boys and girls are handling real-looking snakes and wildly chanting "wrestle with the Devil".

Prince's production is pacy and, discounting the train that seems likely to leap off a bridge into the dress circle, refreshingly unfussy. Andrew Jackness, who designs, achieves much with a hokey kitchen and a hokier town street, with projections of boxcars or pylons crossing the stage, and (especially) with multicoloured cloud formations in which fists and wings materialise. But this is not only a world premiere but a Broadway-bound opening, and there are improvements Prince could make.

Cuteness, though held at bay, has not been banished. The cursorily upbeat ending, in which Swallow's alcoholic dad pays folksy respect to the faith and purity of the young, needs particular attention. The children could look as if they play in messier places than fingerbowls and put something other than Harrods soap on their faces. It would also help if Prince made more effort to suggest the "hardship, the sense of need, of dirt-poor farmers living a hard-scrabble life" he claims in the programme to want. That way, we would be more likely to buy the tale's improbabilities.

But Sir Andrew himself need do little more, for his score grabs you, whether it is in lyrical or smokey country-music or fierce, driving mode. The title song is as lovely as anything he has written, but what most struck me were the anthems of babbling confusion, self-disgust and despair he has given Davis Gaines's superb "Jesus".

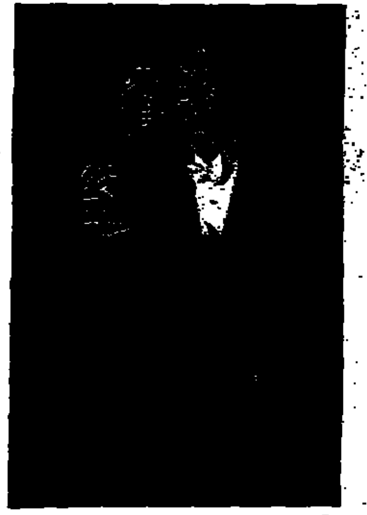
When this ravaged figure sings of failure and of the devils inside him, you do, it's true, wonder again why Swallow remains a disciple. But you also thrill to the sound of true music, authentic drama.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Lloyd Webber's *Whistle Down the Wind* transposes the action from the northern England of Bryan Forbes's classic film to Bible-belt Louisiana

Laughter in Miller's woods

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Almeida



Angela Thorne (Titania) and Norman Rodway (Oberon)

This production, opening an Almeida season sponsored by AT&T, brings Jonathan Miller back to live drama. Excellent news.

He returns not as an actor, though he might still do a sprightly Puck, and would probably make a capable stab at any role except "dwarfish" Hermia — no, his role is that of director, and for much of the first half his achievement is to have created the wittiest of openings to a comedy that generally produces no laughter till the young couples are lost and confused in the wood.

He manages this by setting the play in the glittering 1930s, in front of a wall of glass swing doors, designed by the Quay Brothers, hinting at the façade of a seriously grand hotel, presumably the Athens Ritz. The grandeur has to be ignored when Quince and his workmen make their first appearance but, surprisingly, works perfectly well as woodland. Puck holds open a door — there are 12 in all — and a dazed lover drifts out and away.

The conceit makes ingenious fun of itself when Helena, though deep in the wood, stares at her reflection in a door before uttering the line: "No, no, I am as ugly as a bear."

Of course a quick reread of the lines spoken by, say, Theseus and Hippolyta in the opening scene shows that they contain no humour at all and little liveliness. He compares the moon to a stepdame or a dowager, she refers to its silver bow, new-bent in heaven, and then the plot bursts upon them in the form of Hermia's raging father.

But in Miller's production Theseus is played by John Franklyn-Robbins as an infinitely courteous duke, old-bufferish in the most gracious way, an aristo with unquestioned membership of the best clubs, and such a line, affably drawled, as "the pale companion is not for our pomp" miraculously anchors the play in an affluent and functioning world that we can recognise as being close in time to our own. It is the same with Angela Down's coolly appraising Hippolyta, and later with Angela Thorne's crisply dismissive Titania, slinky in gold lamé: the cut-glass voices that render British films of the period so risibly effete are used in counterpoint to the emotional material. What takes place is comic and serious together. After all, a lady of the manor would know, as Titania does, how grievous it is when the nine men's morris is filled up with mud.

Her scenes with Norman Rodway's urbanely knowlegeable Oberon have vigour and, on Rodway's part, a tenderness when he murmurs her name when removing the spell. His Puck (Jason Watkins) is a cheeky cockney: "I am that merry wanderer of the night," he admits, tucking his fingers proudly into his mustard-yellow weskit.

The lovers begin as characters in a high society play: Jonathan Coy a puffing young military Demetrius, Angus Wright's Lysander floppy with love and neat similes, whose tone of voice interestingly, when bewitched, goes into conventional courtship mode. Sylvestra Le Touzel and Doon Mackichan, like British weather, move smoothly from cool to stormy.

With the rude mechanicals the production is far less successful, although Frank Williams's Quince, like a tetchy Betjeman, is a good idea.

Peter Bayliss strives too hard to be a funny Bottom and isn't, though his punning headpiece, ass at the front and arse behind, is a vital piece of ugliness in a production that might otherwise keep unwisely to elegance.

By the evening's end Miller's vision of the play is showing a touch of glaucomic fuzziness around the edges, but there is bright clarity enough in the centre to satisfy.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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CHANGING TIMES

CONCERTS: An unforgettable Bach mass; plus a Shostakovich treasure

Performing a minor miracle

Monteverdi Choir/Gardiner
Barbican

THE *performance history of* Bach's B Minor Mass is *shrouded in mystery. Parts of* it were performed at different *times and in different places in* Bach's lifetime, but there is no *record of a complete* hearing until much later. Indeed, since the Mass was *unsuitable* in its final form for either the Catholic or *Protestant* liturgies, it has been argued that Bach *completed it as a summation* of his art as a composer of sacred *vocal music, in* much the same way that *The Art of Fugue summed* up that aspect of his compositional skills.

The theory is an attractive one, but where does it leave us as far as performance practice is concerned? If Bach completed the B Minor Mass without a performance in mind, how can we best recreate his intentions?

In the monumental essay by the distinguished Bach scholar Christoph Wolff, reproduced in the programme book accompanying the equally imposing interpretation by John Eliot Gardiner, the Monteverdi Choir and the English Baroque Soloists at the Barbican, the usual *evidence* for the performance of Bach's sacred music is cited. Head of this is *the Entwurss, a memorandum* to the Leipzig Council that has *often* been put forward as the key to Bach's performing *forces*: three or four singers to a part plus two to three violins on each. In a recent article for *Early Music*, however, Andrew Parrott has convincingly reconsidered this document to show that Bach was in fact accustomed to writing for just one singer and one violin to a part. By these standards, Gardiner presented a *de luxe* version, with six singers to each of the five vocal parts, together with a total of 14 violins, and four each of violas and cellos. I'm *not saying that* for today, for a *performance in* the Barbican, this is right or wrong — *and at many points* Gardiner reduced the numbers — but it is worth bearing in mind, especially when, on the other hand, he followed what might be considered historically aware practice in drawing his soloists ("Concertisten") from the choir.

There is no doubt that the Monteverdi Choir is one of the finest of its kind, perhaps *the* finest, and it certainly did not disappoint on this occasion. Always responsive to Gardiner's interpretation, it can bring off with extraordinary flair the exhilarating pace of movements like the "Cum *sancto spiritu" or* "Osanna in excelsis", or sustain the emotional intensity of movements such as the "Crucifixus". This *performance confirmed* that the individual members of the choir have good, clear voices, but as soloists they were not always able to project sufficiently in a hall the size of the Barbican. The patchy acoustic probably did not help, but *neither did the fact that* the soloists had to sing over the *massed violins.*

Such quibbles aside, however, this was a performance remarkable for the sweep of the interpretation: Gardiner achieved a rare dramatic continuity and integrity of vision through shaping the music at every level, from details of phrasing in the strings and carefully controlled articulations in the choir to the full realisation of the larger harmonic structure. In this respect, it was an unforgettable evening.

TESS KNIGHTON

From rare terror to radiance

LPO/Haitink
Festival Hall

*WHEN his Fifth Symphony was pre*miered triumphantly in 1937, Shostakovich wondered aloud what would have been said had he finished it pianissimo and in the minor instead of fortissimo and in a major key.

No one knew he was thinking of his suppressed Fourth Symphony, put aside in the wake of Stalin's denunciation of his opera *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and not to be heard until the 1960s. This pivotal *work*, containing the seeds of the composer's late, ambiguous style, is still not *played often enough, and thus Bernard* Haitink's bold account of it in the second *of his two London Philharmonic concerts* this week was one to be treasured.

The Fourth may not be programmatic like some of Shostakovich's other symphonies, but its bitterness and anger plainly evoke the Stalinist terror of the late Thirties. The anguished working-out the first movement's themes receive after its shrieking, raucous opening speaks of terrifying tension, and Haitink caught almost all of it. He was less inhibited than on his justly admired recording of the work with the same orchestra, and to good effect: each episode, from the presto *string fugue to the grim funeral march,* made its full impact.

The LPO played with taut precision, at times like a mighty machine, while allowing the comparative warmth of the Moderato and dense, sinister darkness of the closing bars to come across. The quirkiness was there too, above all in the waltzes, which *along with the massive* orchestral forces required make this *perhaps the most Mahlerian of Shostako*vich's symphonies.

By contrast, Mozart's Piano Concerto No 27 in B flat, K595, last of his great series of concertos, is lightly scored even by the composer's own standards. It has radiant simplicity, touched with melancholy, but like *The Magic Flute* its subtleties run deep. Andras Schiff was the gentle, soft-grained soloist, who within his refined scale of dynamics never forced a note. He made the Larghetto a lyrical outpouring and brought delicacy to the *dancing rhythms of the finale. String* sound had special shine in a performance that *bore the stamp of Haitink's and* Schiff's formidable musical partnership.

JOHN ALLISON

DANCE: A London premiere

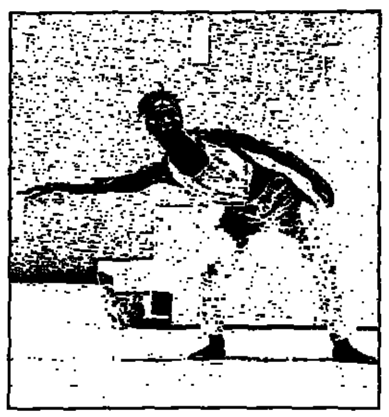
Stuck in a rut

BUNTY MATTHIAS calls her *new piece Viewpoint*, and at first glance the view is impressive. Two large interlocking white staircases on rollers *define the stage*, a striking visual image that nicely suggests the idea of movement. Dancers walk up and down the staircases, sometimes travellers *along the steps*, at other times a kind of architectural component in their construction. The potential for clever choreographic contrivance is thus in place.

But where do we go from here? Into a world of lost opportunities, as it turns out. During the course of the next 50 minutes at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, what began as a tight ensemble of six dancers quickly deteriorates into a disparate collection of half a dozen. Matthias's premise — that dance and architecture both need space to function — is sacrificed to the easy pursuit of style-conscious choreographic *posturing*. Instead of exploring the promise of intellectual engagement, the movement falls into a rut of convenience.

This is particularly hard on Matthias's dancers. They parade through aimless choreography that leaves each one of them out on a limb. Like narcissistic habitués of some metropolitan singles bar, they are too absorbed in celebrating their own separateness to connect with a wider world.

Yet there is a chic overlay to the proceedings. Matthias and her co-choreographer Annabel Haydn feed off a trendy cosmopolitan' energy. The choreography is undoubtedly stronger than in the company's last production, but what's needed now is a greater commitment to ideas and a better understanding of structure.



Bunty Matthias in *Viewpoint*

The soundtrack (credit: Noel Watson) veers from electro-blast to meditative chants, and crosses a world of influences. Those wonderful staircases were designed by Wells Mackereth Architects.

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■ POP 1

The best records of 1996 range from Joan Osborne's *Relish*, which reinvented classic rock . . .

■ POP 2

. . . and the jagged peaks of emotion scaled by Longpigs on *The Sun Is Often Out* . . .

THE TIMES ARTS POP

■ POP 3

. . . to the 57-year-old Norma Waterson giving the folk treatment to an eclectic mix of material . . .

■ POP 4

. . . and the dark, hard, moody and relentless singles put out by the Prodigy

Of fave raves and a rave fave

Alanis and Oasis may have ruled the charts, but **David Sinclair** found more off-the-wall hits warmed his '96

Like most American acts in 1996, **Joan Osborne** spent the year labouring in the shadow of Alanis Morissette, whose *Jagged Little Pill* is now one of the biggest-selling albums of the decade. But, unlike most American acts, Osborne actually made a better album than Morissette's. It was called *Relish* (Blue Gorilla/Mercury 526 699, £15.49), and if ever a collection of songs could be said to have minted fresh coin from the ore of traditional American music, this was it.

A masterpiece which all but reinvented the notion of classic rock, *Relish* incorporated elements of blues, soul and, most intriguingly, hillbilly gospel, into a format that was as rich as it was accessible. *One Of Us* was the album's big hit, but other tracks, especially the gloriously syncopated *Spider Web* and the striding, skipped-beat rocker, *Right Hand Man*, gave a better indication of the sweeping emotional range at Osborne's disposal, and the seductive delights of her sweet-and-sour vocal tone.

In Britain the tidal wave of Britpop bands gradually slowed to a stream of stragglers. Ash, Cast and the Bluetones all made great singles and laid the foundations of long-term careers with debut albums that seemed to promise more than they delivered, while Kula Shaker, who had yet to release a record this time last year, became a gilt-edged phenomenon.

But only one new British band released an album that genuinely lasted the distance on musical merit alone: the unfortunately named **Longpigs** with their much-delayed debut, *The Sun Is Often Out* (Mother MUM9602, £9.99).

With songs such as *Lost Myself*, *She Said* and the transcendental *Jesus Christ*, all built around the craggy guitar chops of Richard Hawley and the pleading vocal acrobatics of singer Crispin Hunt, Longpigs consistently scaled jagged peaks of emotion while never once losing the melodic plot.

Norma Waterson's near-triumph in the Mercury Music Prize with her self-titled debut (Hannibal/Rykodisc HNCD 1393, £11.99) raised a few eyebrows. The 57-year-old grandmother from Hull gave Pulp a run for their money with a collection of songs gathered from anywhere but the usual folk sources.

Effortlessly bending tunes by Elvis Costello, Billy Bragg, Richard Thompson (who played brilliantly throughout the album) and others to the service of her noble, lilting voice, Waterson conjured memories of Fairport Convention during the days of Sandy Denny, particularly with her version of Ben Harper's *Pleasure and Pain*. Her gorgeous interpretation of the Grateful Dead's *Black Muddy River* was a performance to die for.

There was much talk this year of how hardcore techno music was becoming the "new rock". Underworld's album, *Second Toughest in the Infants*, was a timely wake-up call to the legions of fans still lost in the cosy haze of Britpop, and even the king of retro, Noel Gallagher, found time to collaborate with the Chemical Brothers on their single, *Setting Sun*.

But it was two stunning singles by the **Prodigy** — *Firestarter* (XL XLS 70) and *Breathe* (XL XLS 80, £4.49 each), both of which topped the chart and stayed there — that truly signalled the seismic shift in pop that got under way in 1996. Dark, hard, moody and relentless, both records came tooled up with alarming videos in which dancer/vocalist Keith Flint performed with the demented menace of a satanic clown, while the machine-generated beats rained down like a piston gunning a heavy industrial pump. It was sensational stuff.

Radio programmers and industry pundits scratched their heads in bemusement, children hid behind their sofas and grown-up viewers of *Top of the Pops* complained about the decadent ferocity of it all, just like they used to in the days when pop really mattered.

That Sinclair set of searing, soaraway superstars in full (clockwise from top): Longpigs, Norma Waterson, Joan Osborne and the Prodigy

Manx treat preacher

MOST of us, when asked to describe the sound of the Isle of Man, would probably think of the roar of motorcycles at the TT races. In fact, the island has a long and distinctive musical tradition influenced both by a Viking past and its geographical position at the very centre of the Gaelic world.

Spearheading the revival of Manx music is Emma Christian, a precocious 24-year-old singer with a PhD in the medieval history of her native island, who has done much to revive what had become almost a lost art form.

Christian gave a remarkable South Bank performance with her pure, haunting voice and compelling songs from the ancient kingdom. Accompanying herself on Celtic harp and recorder she performs by candlelight (requiring the presence of a fire officer on the stage throughout) and evokes mysterious, ancient pagan moods. The effect is intensely atmospheric as between songs she tells age-old legends of the dramatic history of an island which remains an autonomous Crown dependency outside both the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Emma Christian
Purcell Room

Her voice is as breathtakingly beautiful as anything you have ever heard from the Celtic fringe. Think of Enya without the annoying synthesizers — and then some. This is a music in which time stands still, employing ancient modal structures which predate minor and major scales.

Christian has become one of the biggest-selling names in Celtic music in America. Her new album, *Pagan Lady*, is due for release in the new year, and should put both her and her home land on the musical map on this side of the Atlantic. She is also the founder and president of the annual "Isle of Man, Isle of Music" festival, an event which draws top artists from around the Celtic world, and which next year will be opened by the King of Norway in recognition of the Isle of Man's strong Scandinavian past.

In our endless search for the exotic and the different from around the world, we often forget that we possess such jewels in the musical heritage of our own backyard. Christian is one such gem, a performer who is destined to make the Isle of Man famous once again for a lot more than motorcycle races.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

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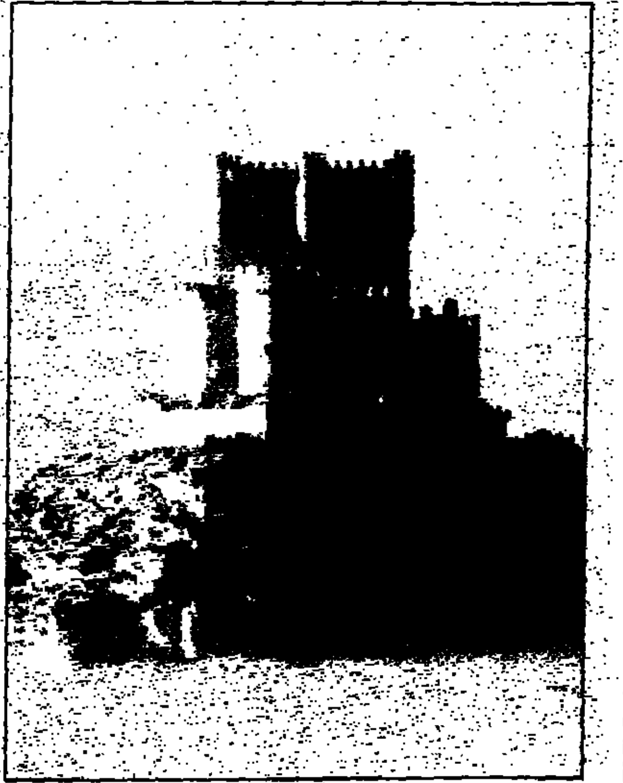

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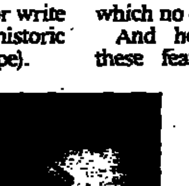
CHANGING TIMES

No sleep till you've finished reading the Beastie Boys' mag

All the news that's fit

CAITLIN MORAN



Pop stars' second careers are usually unintentionally hilarious. There's the backseat driver jobs of running a studio or producing other bands' records, which pretty much every pop star dabbles in at some point. Then there's the renaissance men and women who can sing, dance and run a trout farm (Roger Daltrey), design wallpaper (David Bowie), or write vast tomes on prehistoric stone circles (Julian Cope).

And then there's the Beastie Boys — hip hop Richard Bransons with fingers in more pies than a tribe of cannibals who got a Pie Magic machine for Christmas. The Beastie Boys make Margaret Thatcher look like a lazy, dozy slacker who curled up on some beanbag in front of the telly in 1990 and hasn't got up since.

As well as their own, juicily successful careers, they've set up their own record label, Grand Royal, with a strong bias towards self-possessed female artists (Bis and Luscious Jackson); a clothing company; a Free Tibet travelling festival that's grossing millions in aid of the Tibetans; and a magazine, also named *Grand Royal*.

The magazine is fascinating for a variety of reasons. First, it's like no magazine you've ever seen before. There are no articles about fashion, sex, style or clothes. There are no headlines squealing *Why are you so insecure and hated?* No New Lad hideousness about how sexism is OK so long as it's *ironic*. Instead, *Grand Royal* presumes that you have a brain, and, what's more, that that brain would be thrilled to learn about new stuff, as long as it's entertainingly written about. Thus, in the current issue of *Grand Royal*, we are given the fascinating history of Adidas trainers, a 32-page piece on Moog synthesizers and their oddball predecessor, the Theremin, and a ten-page interview with pop artist "Weird" Al Yankovich, in which no questions are asked.

And how interesting are these features? Well, as a woman who gets an uncontrollable urge to run away if she looks at a plug, let alone the insides of a Moog Sonic Six, I was determined to build my own Theremin by the end of it all. Full instructions are provided.

The Boys' Adam Yauch interviews the Dalai Lama who speaks, with simple poetry, on how we could all be a little bit happier if we were all a little bit sweeter, while 20 pages on there's a profile of Jesco White, an Appalachian mountain dancer who's "Tryin' to be the goodest person [he] can without breakin' the law". There's also a roundly hilarious piece on how to get into Hollywood hotels' swimming pools, including advice on which walls and balconies to jump from.

The most fascinating thing about *Grand Royal*, however, is the concept that, one day, all pop stars will want to run their own magazines. The Beastie Boys are presumably tired of having music journalists explaining the "meaning" and "context" of their records, and have decided they'd rather decode things themselves. While the majority of the magazine is not written by the Boys themselves, their ethos shines through — fun first, music second, musicians third, and the writer's ego last.

It's understandable that musicians want to start taking control of their media dealings — after all, the most a star can expect as a retraction of a front-page tabloid lie is the word "sorry", written in microscopic Braille and buried on page 22. And if the magazines they produce are half as entertaining, intelligent, eclectic and fun as *Grand Royal*, then W H Smith's profits will treble.

● *The third issue of* Grand Royal *is available now*

[illegible]

1	Spice	Spice Girls (Virgin)
2	Take Two	Robson & Jerome (RCA)
3	Blue is the Colour	Beautiful South (Go! Discs)
4	Falling into You	Celine Dion (Epic)
5	Greatest Hits	Simply Red (East West)
6	The Score	Fugees (Columbia)
7	Around the World — The Story So Far	East 17 (London)
8	A Different Beat	Boyzone (Polydor)
9	Christmas Party	Smurfs (EMI TV)
10	Travelling Without Moving	Jamiroquai (Sony S²)

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هكذا من الاصل

■ POP 5

Art Garfunkel spent the past decade walking across America. Yet he still found time to make music

■ JAZZ 1

Mississippi vocalist Cassandra Wilson delivers a desultory performance to the faithful at Shepherds Bush

THE TIMES ARTS POP

■ JAZZ 2

New on CD: the drummer Ted Sirota and his quartet pay tribute to the music of Ornette Coleman

■ TOMORROW

Covent Garden launches its development appeal with a gala: read John Higgins's verdict

Why Art went off to look for America

The curly-haired guy with the voice of an angel is back – with a new album and an intimate knowledge of his native land. **Paul Sexton** reports

Art Garfunkel speaks with unsurprising eloquence about the art of vocal craftsmanship, and has a rich personal history, going back more than 40 years, in music and movies. It comes as something of a surprise, therefore, to find that his specialist subjects also include such outdoor pursuits as orienteering and topography.

Garfunkel is in London to publicise *Across America*, the first live album of his 26-year solo career. The record, containing both his own hits and those of Simon & Garfunkel, documents two concerts he gave in April at Ellis Island in Upper New York Bay.

So, at the place where generations of immigrants landed in America in sight of the Statue of Liberty, Garfunkel marked the end of a personal journey that distinguishes him as the self-possessed and cerebral spirit he has always appeared to be.

Over the past 12 years, in some 40 different outings of a week or so each, Garfunkel has walked across America, equipped only with map, paperback, sunglasses and notebook. The experience has provided the perfect antidote to the bustle of metropolitan life, and his musical tribulations of recent years.

"In 1984," he says, "I left my apartment on the Upper East Side of New York, with my new sneakers on my feet. I crossed Central Park, Columbia College, the George Washington Bridge, then New Jersey, and just kept on trucking.

"One state leads to another. In these 40 different outings, I would do a week then come home. I'd have 100 miles in me, a lot of fortification of my soul and a lot of good air. It's a great answer to the claustrophobia of New York."

Just as Garfunkel's career since splitting with Paul Simon has produced a selection of infrequent but finely honed albums, his approach to this endeavour was equally painstaking.

"Some months later I'd find another chance, fly out to where I left off, rent a car, get to the motel, drive to the exact spot, put the car off to the side of the road and keep trucking," he says. "I like to think of it as a Zen science. Let the shoulders fall, let the gait have no affectation, and once you're in that, when you're in the third hour, you feel like you're lifting off the ground."

> ‘I would do a week, then come home. I'd have 100 miles in me and a lot of good air’

Thus Garfunkel rediscovered the simplicity of youth by becoming, as his friend James Taylor would put it, a walking man. "I let spontaneity be my itinerary," he says. "And I can't tell you how lovely it was. You really feel that you know the topography of America, and it's meaningful. You know where the lowlands are after the Pallisades of New Jersey, and how that then climbs up to some hilliness in western Jersey, and then the Appalachians set in. It all becomes a topographical memory."

Such an estimable undertaking was not at the expense of Garfunkel's family life. Indeed, both his wife, Kim Cermak, and his six-year-old son James make vocal contributions to the new live album. But it did provide an escape valve for the increasing frustrations of the singer's recording career.

"I got discouraged by lack of hits in the late 1980s," says Garfunkel, who is now working on an album to be called *Songs from a Parent to a Child*, due for release next year and his first new studio record since *Lefty*, released in 1988. The rejuvenation also has much to do with his new deal with Virgin after leaving Sony, his recording home for 32 years. "I felt misunderstood as a recording artist," Garfunkel says. "Sony was not at all my best friend, and I'm very pleased to have left it.

"I've always felt that the people like me, but I gotta get at the people through the record company — and that's been a real barrier. You can't know what it's like to make an album that you're proud of and that you've laboured over for a long time, then bring it to these executives and have them misunderstand it and send it back to you and tell you what you need to do with it. It truly breaks your heart."

His other refuge came in appearing live on stage. "In the past few years I've become a stage artist rather than a recording artist," he says. "It's really the first time in my career that I've done a lot of shows, except for the early days with Paulie back in the 1960s. In the late 1980s and all through the 1990s I must have done a couple of hundred shows, and I'm into it. I love cutting out that middle man."

Talk of "Paulie" prompts one to ask about his relationship with the man to whom Garfunkel's artistic attachment began, at the age of 11. It is only three years since the most recent of the duo's latest "comeback" tours, but Garfunkel now says that, "of choice," he is no longer in contact with Simon.

"Without being coy, I suspect in my heart of hearts that it's a lifelong friendship that will have a rapprochement somewhere in the not near (*sic*) future," he says. "I think we've ultimately turned off our followers who've said, 'Enough with this friendship with the on-off moodiness, can't you guys leave us alone on that subject? We accept that you split, now please don't have a reunion!' "

Nevertheless, he still performs many of Simon's songs from their golden days in his set and on *Across America*. "I don't have any problem doing the old stuff," he says. "They're very good songs, they appeal to millions of people. I lost my feeling for *Feelin' Groovy* — it became fluff somewhere through the years, and I only keep it in the show as an accommodation of the fact that others like it.

"I'm not sick of *The Sounds of Silence*, though. I love to chase after the flow of *Scarborough Fair*, and *Bridge Over Troubled Water* is always that same polevault. You run down the first two verses with your pole, you plant it and you go over a 29ft bar at the end, and that's nothing less than a thrill every time you do it."

Be it such vocal athletics or his other forms of spiritual exercise, Garfunkel remains his own man, and hang the funny looks. "I've been getting those looks all my life," he says, and smiles. "Somewhere in my childhood I said: 'I ain't going to worry about the fact that I'm marching to the beat of my own drum.' Whichever way they're swinging, I'm going to swing the other way. It's inherently more interesting."

● *The Very Best of Art Garfunkel — Across America* is released by Virgin. Garfunkel will perform on BBC1's *National Lottery Live* tomorrow (7.50pm).

"I think of it as a Zen science. Let the shoulders fall, let the gait have no affectation, and once you're in that, you feel like you're lifting off the ground": Art Garfunkel on the natural high of walking across America

Paying their dues to the Man

[illegible]

TED SIROTA'S REBEL SOULS
Rebel Roots
(Naim CD014)

IT IS nearly 40 years since Ornette Coleman's classic acoustic quartet made the groundbreaking *The Shape of Jazz to Come*, but, perhaps because today's revivalists prefer to revisit less free forms such as hard bop, the music Coleman made in the late 1950s still sounds oddly unfamiliar and radical.

Drummer Ted Sirota's quartet takes this music as its starting point and, despite featuring a tenor/guitar front line instead of alto/trumpet for its compelling tension between structure and freedom, the Rebel Souls' sound is a worthy tribute to its celebrated model.

In addition to six assured originals — three by guitarist Jeff Parker, two by saxophonist Kevin Kizer and a percussive, African-flavoured piece by the leader — the band also stretches out on tunes by Coleman himself, his late-1950s bassist Charlie Haden, Sonny Rollins and Monk.

CONRAD HERWIG
The Latin Side of John Coltrane
(Astor Place TCD 4003)

TO those who would object that they did not know John Coltrane had a Latin side — his "world music" explorations took him to India and Africa rather than South America — the American trombonist Conrad Herwig replies: "This music is a marriage of Coltrane's musical logic, rhythmic conception, transcendental spirituality with Afro-Caribbean musical structures."

For this project he has assembled a superb band of Latin-music specialists — pianists Danilo Perez and Eddie Palmieri, flautist Dave Valentin, percussionists Richie Flores and Milton Cardona — and versatile jazz musicians such as trumpeter Bryan Lynch and baritone player Ronnie Cuber to filter such Coltrane staples as *A Love Supreme*, *Naima* and *Impressions* through smartly percussive arrangements.

The resulting album, chiefly memorable for its overall bite and textural sophistication, enables familiar material to be seen from a novel perspective.

CHRIS PARKER

Sharp and flat

JAZZ GIGS

NEXT time, **Diana Krall** will have to stay for more than one night (at Pizza Express, W1): here is a singer who has the talent to draw full houses, day in, day out.

While her new album, *All For You*, forms an affectionate tribute to the trio recordings of Nat King Cole, Krall could never be mistaken for a fusty museum curator. Her lustrous voice, rooted in the lower register, transforms each number into an individual and contemporary statement.

Opening with *I'm An Errand Girl For Rhythm* she flowed confidently into a drawling *Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby*, a highlight of last year's release, *Only Trust Your Heart*. The studio version contained a characteristically smoky tenor saxophone solo by Stanley Turrentine; the live version stoked up enough heat on its own.

Guitarist Russell Malone and Paul Keller took full advantage of the openings that Krall generously granted them: this was a fully integrated trio, not simply a singer plus backing musicians.

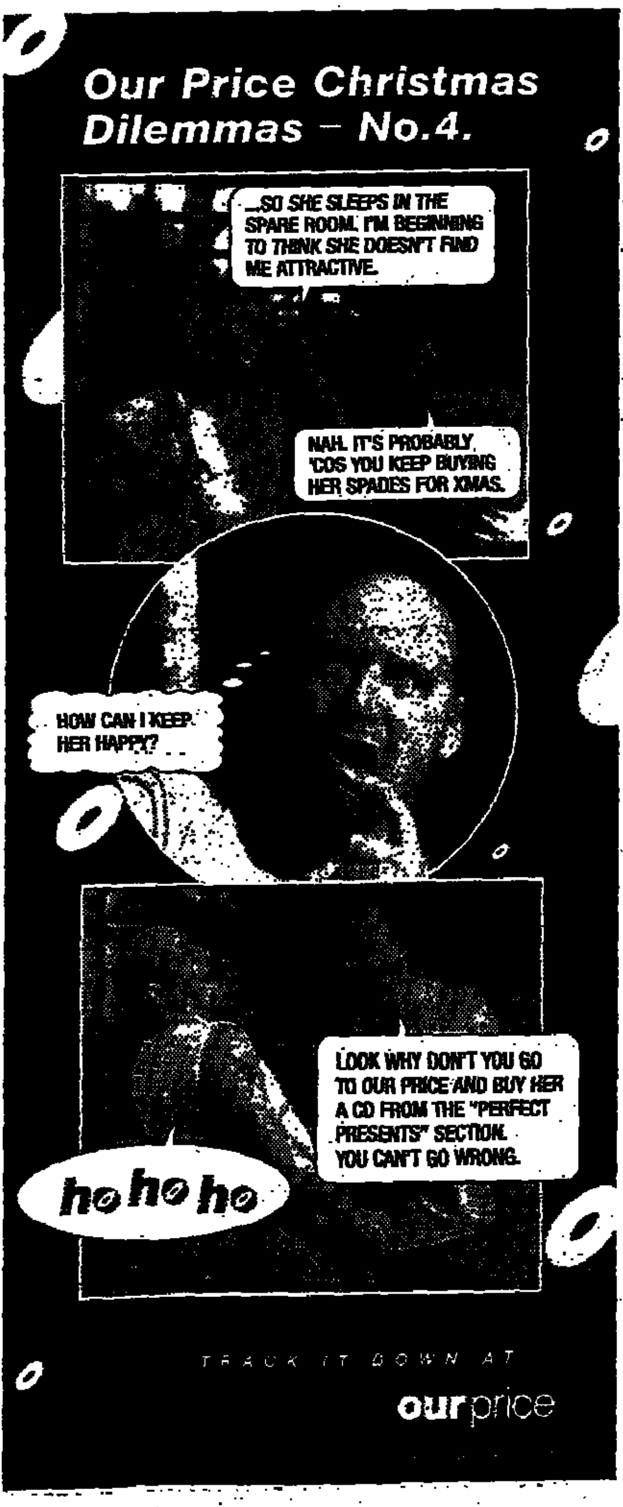
Meanwhile, those of us who have been mystified by the extravagant claims made for **Cassandra Wilson** over the past five years will have been none the wiser after her desultory performance at the Shepherds Bush Empire.

Although the blues-and-roots flavour of her last two albums has won her a broader pop audience, the Mississippi-born vocalist seems more and more a prisoner of her own earth-goddess mannerisms.

At her best she is undoubtedly a distinctive interpreter of lyrics. Her achingly slow treatment of *I Can't Stand The Rain* lends the song an eerily neurotic aura. The unorthodox line-up of her group — bass, percussion and guitars — also has its merits.

Unfortunately, her infatuation with ballad tempos soon grew crushingly repetitive as she meandered through U2's *Love Is Blindness* and her own composition *Find Him*. There were no surprises, no hidden depths in her phrasing, only the same formula repeated over and over.

CLIVE DAVIS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■ CHOICE 1

Tenor in town: José Carreras brings a bag of arias to London

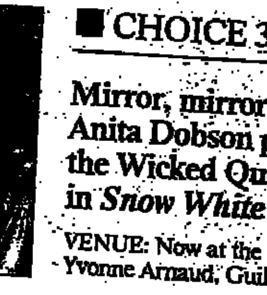
VENUE: Tomorrow at the Albert Hall

■ CHOICE 2

The jazz world throws a party for Stan Tracey's 70th birthday

VENUE: Tonight at the Queen Elizabeth Hall

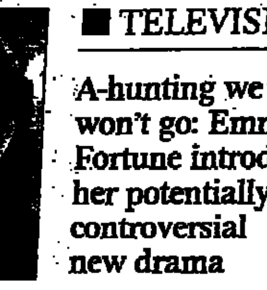
THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 3

Mirror, mirror: Anita Dobson plays the Wicked Queen in *Snow White*

VENUE: Now at the Yvonne Arnaud, Guildford



■ TELEVISION

A-hunting we won't go: Emma Fortune introduces her potentially controversial new drama

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

ALBERT HALL: A varied programme this weekend begins tonight with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra giving the world premiere performance of Roald Dahl's adaptation of **Jack and the Beanstalk**, with music by Georgs Pelecis. The narrators include Joanna Lumley and Danny DeVito. Tomorrow, one of the world's greatest tenors, **José Carreras**, graces the Albert Hall stage and, on Sunday, Owain Arwel Hughes conducts the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** in music inspired by the magical world of childhood.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). All at 7.30pm. 🅂

FESTIVE SONG: The eleventh **Christmas Festival at St John's**, Smith Square, London, begins tomorrow with the Holst Singers taking the audience on a European tour of Christmas music, with favourite carols such as *Silent Night* and a complete performance of Britten's *Christ's Nativity*. Daily concerts include two performances of Handel's *Messiah* (restricted view seats remaining) and a rendition of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, parts 1-3.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061). Tonight-December 21, various times.

STAN TRACEY 70TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT: A special tribute to the jazz pianist and composer, whose career has spanned more than 50 years. Featuring musicians with whom Tracey has worked, including Bobby Wellins, Gerard Presencer and Art Themen, and the new Stan Tracey Septet.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm.

ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: Dr Evadne and Dame Hilda, otherwise known as Hinge and Bracket, star in the Anvil's Christmas show, **Dick Whittington**. With Maggie Moone in the lead role, Buster Merryfield and Jane Freeman.
The Anvil, Churchill Lane (01256 844244). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 2.30pm and 7pm (except Wed 25); Sun, 4pm 🅂

GUILDFORD: Anita Dobson as the Wicked Queen and Bill Maynard as Herman the Henchman star in the classic fairy-tale, **Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**. With Karen Worth and the Sue Thompson Dance School.
Yvonne Arnaud, Millbrook (01483 440000). Opens today, 2.30pm, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat (except Mon 16, Wed 25), various times. Ring box office for details. Until January 4. 🅂

NEWCASTLE: Comedy duo Cannon and Ball star in another pantomime favourite, **Aladdin**. With Paul Asher, alias Barry Grant of *Brookside*, and Felice Arena of *Neighbours*.
Theatre Royal, 100 Grey Street (0191-232 2061). Opens today, 2pm and 7pm. Then Mon-Sat (except Wed 25), 2pm and 7pm. Until January 18. 🅂

STRATFORD: RSC debut for Leslie Phillips, playing Falstaff, with Susannah York (also her debut), Edward Petherbridge and Joanna McCallum in **The Merry Wives of Windsor**.
Royal Shakespeare, Waterside (01789 295623). Previews begin tonight, 7.30pm. Opens Dec 19, 7pm. In rep with *Much Ado* 🅂

LONDON GALLERIES

Alan Cristea: Colour Etching (0171-439 1866) . . **Chalk Farm**: Michael Forbes, Oil Paintings (0171-267 3300) **Chris Beetles**: The British Art of Illustration, 1780-1996 (0171-839 7551) **Courtauld**: Sir William Chambers: Architect to George III (0171-873 2526) **Festival Hall**: The Scenic Eye: Visual Art and the Theatre (0171-960 4242) . . **Kapil Jariwala**: Jade Jagger, Paintings (0171-437 2172) . . **Mall**: Royal Institute of Oil Painters: Annual Exhibition (0171-930 6844) . . **National**: Associate Artist: Peter Blake (0171-747 2885) . . **Portal**: Portal Painters Christmas Exhibition (0171-493 0706) **Portland**: Twentieth Century Scottish Artists (0171-321 0422)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **ART**: Albert Finney, Tom Courtenay and Ken Stott in an exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white canvas. Matthew Warchus directs.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm

☐ **THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE:** Quick revival for Martin McDonagh's well-crafted and gripping drama of love lost in Connemara. A change of cast brings Jane Brennan in as the frustrated daughter to Anna Manahan. Garry Hynes directs.
Royal Court (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until January 11

■ **GUYS AND DOLLS**: Richard Eyre revives his famous production of the Frank Loesser musical. Imelda Staunton recreates her role of Miss Adelaide. With Harry Goodman, Clarke Peters and Joanna Riding.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.15pm. Opens Dec 17, 7pm 🅂

■ **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR**: Gale Edwards directs a reconceived production.
Lyceum, Wellington Street, WC2 (0171-656 1807, booking fee). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

☐ **LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR:** Neil Simon's funny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for comedian Sid Caesar back in the 1950s. Gene Wilder plays Sid. Directed by Roger Haines.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm.

◪ **THE LEARNED LADIES**: Steven Pimlott's revival of Molière's sneer at women's ambitions. Some amusing performances go a little way to brighten it. With Caroline Blakiston, Roger Allam.
The Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm; mat Sat, 2pm. In rep

◪ **OLD WICKED SONGS**: Bob Hoskins plays a music professor teaching Schumann to an arrogant young pianist (James Callis). Elijah Moshinsky directs Jon Marans's play.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Tue, 2.30pm, and Sat, 4pm.

■ **SCROOGE**: Anthony Newley back on the West End stage singing the title role in the Leslie Bricusse musical.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-636 2295). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm

◪ **WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?**: Diana Rigg and David Suchet in Howard Davies's powerful Almeida production of Albee's searing play.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.15pm

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Criterion (0171-369 1737) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (0171-494 5070) . ■ **Grease**: Cambridge (0171-494 5080) . . . ☐ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . ■ **Miss Saigon**: Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) . ■ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . ◪ **Tommy**: Shaftesbury (0171-379 5399)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ACTS OF LOVE (18): Flawed drama boosted by Dennis Hopper's performance as a teacher in the Midwest, carried away by passion. With Amy Irving and Amy Locane. Director, Bruno Barreto.
Warner (0171-437 4343)

◆ **101 DALMATIANS** (U): Glenn Close knocks spots off the dogs in the live-action edition of the cartoon classic. With Jeff Daniels and Joely Richardson. Director, Stephen Herek.
Barbican 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT** (12): Patrick Stewart's Enterprise crew battles the Borgs. Acceptable adventure, if a little too serious. With Brent Spiner and Alice Krige. Director, Jonathan Frakes.
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** (0990-888 990) **Notting Hill Coronet** 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031)

STEAL BIG, STEAL LITTLE (12): Ham-fisted comic fable about twin brothers (Andy Garcia) disputing an inheritance. Director, Andrew Davis.
Warner (0171-437 4343)

TWO MUCH (PG): Antonio Banderas invents a twin brother, so he can woo both Melanie Griffith and Daryl Hannah. Flat romantic comedy, directed by Fernando Trueba.
Virgin Trocadero (0171-434 0031)

CURRENT

A CHINESE GHOST STORY. Delirious mix of martial arts, horror comedy and ghostly antics; a cult success from the late 1980s, with Leslie Cheung. Director, Ching Siu-Tung.
NFT (0171-928 3232)

◆ **THE CRAFT** (15): High school misfits delve into witchcraft. Routine fare with bright moments. With Fairuza Balk, Robin Tunney; director, Andrew Fleming.
UCI Whiteleys 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgin Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS** (15): Uneven comedy about a dysfunctional family, directed by Jodie Foster. With Holly Hunter and Robert Downey Jr.
Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) **Screen on Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366)

◆ **JINGLE ALL THE WAY** (PG): Aggressively American Christmas comedy, with Arnold Schwarzenegger.
Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** 🅂 (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** 🅂 (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT** (18): Preposterous, hard-driven action movie, with Geena Davis as an amnesiac government assassin.
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Gate** 🅂 (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **West End** (01426-915 574) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

ROS DRINKWATER

"Both the pro-hunting and anti-hunting lobbies are trying to claim *Giving Tongue* as theirs," says Emma Fortune

Hunters hounded

Emma Fortune's first television drama satirises the blood sports debate. She talks to Ros Drinkwater

Emma Fortune is on the crest of a wave. On Monday she makes her television writing debut with *Giving Tongue*, a political satire about blood sports which is being screened as part of BBC2's *Wicked Women* series. And in February the award-winning feature film *Trojan Eddie*, which she produced, goes on general release.

We first met a year ago on the Dublin set of the latter. It was a difficult shoot in filthy weather: the director Gillies MacKinnon working with a temperature of 103, the real-life traveller extras being thrown out of pubs and, on a particularly trying day, endless takes of a scene when a horse that was meant to be shot dead kept dying beautifully then leaping to its feet. Throughout the mayhem, Fortune hovered quietly in the background, mother tiger rather than mother hen.

The raw world of travellers seems an unlikely subject for the daughter of the distinguished theatre and film producer, Stuart Burge. "When I was six, my mother [an American actress] moved us down to the New Forest while my father was directing at Nottingham Playhouse," Fortune says. "I got involved in the local culture. In body and mind I moved away from my London theatrical background, and that kind of stayed with me."

After art college, Fortune made a couple of unscripted film shorts, worked as a BBC floor manager, set up her own company to do music videos with underground bands, and directed an eight-minute opera written by Anthony Minghella. Struck by the power of Billy Roche's Wexford trilogy on stage, she produced the work for BBC TV and then commissioned a feature film screenplay from Roche, *Trojan Eddie*. "It deals with hard characters involved in low-life circumstances — difficult territory, but it makes for a very grown-up film."

Her decision to write was born from frustration at writers who took months to deliver work she commissioned, or didn't deliver at all. "Alan Bennett sent a very good half-script." The BBC turned down her first pitch, for an opera about "mad cow" disease, but she had a second idea up her sleeve, the story of two childhood friends who had gone separate ways, one an MP with a Private Member's Bill to ban hunting, the other a pro-hunting stable girl. This has become *Giving Tongue*.

Unlike *Trojan Eddie's* timeless observance of the human condition, *Giving Tongue* is personal and topical, with one scene set in the rifle range below Parliament. "There were plans to turn it into a crèche," says Fortune, "but the boys won't have it. Despite the gun controversy they're hanging on to their rifle range."

Viewers are left in no doubt as to where Fortune's sympathy lies. "But what I hope comes over is that there is something in hunting that gets at you when you do it. I hunted deer at eight and it was very alarming because I enjoyed it. What's interesting is that both the pro-hunting and anti-hunting lobbies are trying to claim the film as theirs. They are going to be horribly disappointed. It shows failings on both sides — and on the political level how, if the climate is right, something as unimportant as hunting can create a huge political crisis, because people can't resist the lure of the bandwagon."

Fortune plans to continue writing and producing in tandem. In the pipeline is a new film written by Roche, and a script she is co-writing with her husband, John Fortune, very much in the vein she describes as "pointing out truths that seem so absurd they can't possibly be true — but are".

● Giving Tongue *is on BBC2 on Monday at 9pm*

Stricken but still striking

A TUMMY upset threatened Tuesday's revival of Puccini's *Turandot*, at which Nuccia Focile was making her debut with the company as Liù. Before curtain-rise we were told in more detail than was necessary about the volatile state of Focile's insides, and amidst all the "oohs" and "aahs" of sympathy, only the most implacable voice might have been raised inquiring about her cover.

Those who thought her *Traviata* for the Welsh National one of the most striking even in these Violetta-rich years were awaiting Focile's debut with impatience. In the event, nervousness may have taken some of the bloom off her tone, but could not affect the way she blends pungently delivered words and finely spun musical lines into dramatic entities full of meaning: her big moments in the first and third acts were extremely moving and, given the circumstances, heroic. Her small size is an asset to the role.

OPERA

Turandot
Covent Garden

She made a telling visual contrast with Sharon Sweet, returning to the title role. Sweet is a big girl and makes a big noise, sustaining tidal waves of succulent sound right through to the Alfano completion. The return of Giuseppe Giacomini, matchless as Calaf nowadays, was equally welcome, and it was good to see a baritone of Peter Coleman-Wright's stature in the crucial role of Ping — he was energetically aided by Robin Leggate and Alasdair Elliott. Willard White was the sonorous Timur, and Eddie Wade a crisp Mandarin.

Some of Daniele Gatti's tempos sounded a little slower than those on stage were expecting, but his attention to orchestral detail and his overall seriousness of approach powerfully argue the case for *Turandot* not as the last 19th-century opera, rather as one firmly at the centre of the 20th century. Andrei Serban's production is one of the strongest in the company's repertory, and equally up to date.

Tummy upsets notwithstanding, a fine revival.

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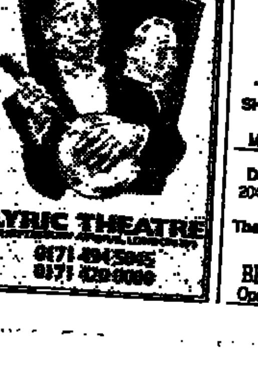

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Basis of reasonable grounds for suspicion

O'Hara v Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Mustill, Lord Steyn, Lord Hoffmann and Lord Hope of Craighead

[Speeches December 12]

In order to determine *whether* reasonable grounds for the suspicion to justify arrest without warrant existed under section 12(1)(b) of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1984, the test related to what was in the arresting *officer's mind* when he effected the arrest because he must have formed a genuine suspicion that the person being arrested had been concerned in acts of terrorism.

It had also to be shown that there had been *reasonable* grounds for forming such a suspicion. The basis of that suspicion was not necessarily the officer's own observations. He could have *formed the suspicion from the* information he received, whether true or false, and a reasonable man, having regard to all the surrounding circumstances, would also regard that suspicion as reasonable.

Instructions by a superior officer to arrest, without more, was insufficient to afford a ground for reasonable suspicion. The arresting officer should be given some basis for such instructions, for example, a report from an *informer*.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Gerard O'Hara, from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland (Lord Justice Kelly, Mr Justice Pringle and Mr *Justice Higgins*) (unreported, May 6, 1994) of his appeal from Mr Justice McCollum (*unreported*, September 14, 1990) on the ground that the judge was right in holding that the information given at the briefing to Detective Constable Stewart, the arresting constable, was admissible and it was sufficient to constitute the required state of mind of an arresting officer *under section 12(1)(b) of the 1984* Act.

In the plaintiff's action against the respondent, the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary claiming, inter alia, damages for unlawful arrest and *consequent false imprisonment*, Mr Justice McCollum had held that as a result of the information given to DC Stewart, he had reasonable grounds for suspecting that the plaintiff had been concerned in the commission, *preparation or instigation of acts of* terrorism.

Section 12 of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1984 provides:

"(1) Subject to subsection (2) below, a constable may arrest without *warrant* a person whom he has reasonable grounds for suspecting to be — ... (b) a person who is or has been concerned in the commission, preparation or instigation of acts of terrorism to which this Part of this Act applies..."

The 1984 Act expired on March 21, 1989 and was replaced by the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act 1989, the provisions of section 12(1) being in section 14(1) of the 1989 Act.

Mr Hugh P. Kennedy, QC and Mr Barry MacDonald, both of the Northern Ireland Bar, for the plaintiff; Mr Patrick Coghlin, QC and Mr Piers Grant, both of the Northern Ireland Bar, for the chief constable.

LORD STEYN, agreeing with Lord Hope, added that given the independent responsibility and accountability of a constable under a *provision such as section 12(1), it* followed that the mere fact that an arresting officer had been instructed by a superior officer to effect the arrest was not capable of amounting to reasonable grounds for the necessary suspicion within the meaning of the subsection. In practice a constable must be given *some basis for request* to arrest somebody under such a provision, for example, a report from an informer.

LORD HOPE *said that at about* 6.15am on December 28, 1985 police officers entered the plaintiff's house at 72 Duncreggan Road, Londonderry, and conducted a search of the premises. At the conclusion of the search, at about 8.05am, they arrested the plaintiff under section 12(1)(b) of the 1984 Act. They took him to Castlereagh Police Office, where the police questioned him in a *series of interviews*.

On December 29 an order was made by the *secretary of state* under section 12(4) of the 1984 Act extending the period of 48 hours provided by that subsection by five days. On January 13, 1986 the *plaintiff* was released without being charged either then or subsequently with any offene. Later that year he brought an action for damages against the *chief* constable.

At the trial, the arresting officer, DC Stewart, said in his evidence that at 5.30am on December 28 he attended a *briefing at Strand Road* Police Station. The purpose of the briefing was to mount an operation to search houses and to arrest a number of people in connection with the murder of Kurt Koenig about two months previously. It was common ground *that the* murder of Koenig, which had been committed in Londonderry in November 1985, was an act of terrorism within the meaning of section 12(1).

The briefing was conducted by *Inspector* Brown and it was attended by a number of other police officers. The purpose of the search was to look for weapons or other evidence.

It was important to observe that the position of the arresting officer was not simply that he had been told to arrest the plaintiff. Nor was *it that he had simply been told* that the plaintiff had been concerned in *the* commission, *preparation or* instigation of acts of terrorism.

His position, as stated by him in *evidence*, was that he suspected the plaintiff of having been concerned in such acts, and that his suspicion was based on the briefing which *had been given to him* by *his* superior officer. The judge accepted the arresting officer's evidence on both points.

The question was whether the judge was entitled also to hold that the arresting officer had reasonable *grounds for this suspicion*, as the only evidence about those grounds was what the officer himself said about them.

The test which section 12(1) laid *down was a simple one. It related* entirely to what was in the mind of the arresting officer when the power was exercised. In part that was a *subjective* test, because he must have formed a genuine suspicion in his own mind that the *person had been concerned in acts* of terrorism.

In part also it was an objective one, because there must also be reasonable grounds for the suspicion which he had formed. But the application of the objective test *did not require the court* to look beyond what was in the mind of the arresting officer.

It was the grounds which were in his mind at the time which must *be found* to be reason*able grounds* for the suspicion which he had *formed*. All that the *objective test* required was that those grounds be examined objectively and that they be judged at the time when the power was exercised.

That meant that the point did not depend on whether the arrest*ing officer himself thought* at that time that they were reasonable. The question was whether a reasonable man would be of that opinion, having regard to the information which was in the mind of the arresting officer. It was the arresting officer's own account of the information which he had *that mattered, not what was observed* by or known to anyone else.

The information acted on by the arresting officer need not be based on his own observations, as he was entitled to form a suspicion based on what he had been told. His *reasonable suspicion might* be based on information which had been given to him anonymously or it might be based on information, perhaps in the course of an emergency, which turned out later to be wrong.

It was not necessary to go on to prove what was known to his informant or that any facts on which he based his suspicion were in fact true. The question whether it provided reasonable grounds for the suspicion depended on the *source of his information and its* context, seen in the light of the whole surrounding circumstances.

What Parliament had enacted in section 12(1) of the 1984 Act was that the reasonable suspicion had to be in the mind of the arresting officer. *So it was the facts known by or the* information given to the officer who effected the arrest or detention to which the mind of the independent observer must be applied.

It was that objective test, applying the criterion of what might be *regarded as reasonable*, which provided the safeguard against arbitrary arrest and detention. The arrest and detention would be unlawful unless that criterion was satisfied. Neither the judge nor the Court of Appeal misdirected themselves as *to the test to* be applied.

Lord Goff, Lord Mustill and *Lord Hoffmann agreed*.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co *for* Denis E. Mullan, *Londonderry*; Treasury Solicitor for Crown Solicitor, Belfast.

Domestic law cannot override Convention

Sidhu and Others v British Airways plc

Abnett (known as Sykes) v Same

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, Lord Mustill, Lord Steyn and Lord Hope of Craighead

[Speeches December 12]

The Warsaw Convention, as *amended at* The Hague 1955, contained in Schedule 1 to the Carriage by Air Act 1961, as a whole, and not the 1961 Act had to be given a purposive construction.

Thus the Convention provided a partial but comprehensive *harmonisation* only of the rules relating to international carriage by air and reflected an important concession by carriers in that they surrendered their freedom of con*tract at a time when they were able* to enter into contracts in any terms they wished.

In return they were offered a compromise, contained in article 24 of the Convention, that in the cases covered by articles 17, 18 and 19 *actions for damages*, however founded, could only be brought subject to the conditions and limits set by the Convention.

Thus, all the claims other than those for damage to the registered baggage under article 18 and for delay *under* article 19 were covered by those provisions.

The purpose of the provisions was to ensure that the carrier's liability was only subject to the Convention and the passenger had no access to any other remedies, whether under the common law or otherwise, available in the country where he chose to bring the action.

To permit exceptions, which enabled a passenger to sue outwith the Convention for losses sustained in the course of inter*national carriage by air, would* distort the whole system.

In the interest of uniformity of treatment and of certainty, article 28 restricted the places where an action could be brought and article 29 extinguished the right to dam*ages where the action was brought* after two years and, where the Convention had not provided a remedy, no remedy was available.

The House of Lords so held when:

1 Dismissing an appeal by the plaintiffs, *Miss Kiran Sidhu*, Miss Harjinder Sidhu and Mr Ravinder Sidhu, from the dismissal by *the* Court of Appeal in England (Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Otton) (unreported, January 27, 1995, CA (Civ Div) Transcript No 107 of 1995) of an appeal by the *plaintiffs from the dismissal of* their action against British Airways plc, on February 28, 1994 by Judge Marcus Edwards at Brentford County Court.

The court decided that article 17 of the Warsaw Convention pro*vided that the only remedy open to* a passenger claiming to have suffered personal injuries arising from an international flight was under the Convention and that the Convention contained an exclusive and exhaustive code governing *such actions and excluded actions* brought under common law.

The plaintiffs' summons, taken out on July 30, 1993, seeking, inter alia, damages for negligence and personal injuries suffered by them was dismissed by Judge Marcus Edwards who decided that the *plaintiffs had no rights save under* the Convention and that even if they had, such rights were extinguished two years after August 2, 1990 by article 29.

2 *Dismissing* an appeal by the pursuer, Mrs Judith Helen Abnett (known as Sykes), from the interlocutors of an Extra Division of the Inner House of the Court of Session in Scotland (Lord Allanbridge, Lord Mayfield and Lord Clyde) (*The Times June 22, 1995*; 1996 SLT 529), whereby the court, having considered the pursuer's motion for review of the interlocutor dated December 20, *1993 of Lord Ordinary, Lord* Marnoch, refused the motion and adhered to the interlocutor.

The court held that, bearing in mind the purposes of the Warsaw Convention and its negotiating history, the Convention should be *construed as being exclusive of all* common law claims arising from international carriage by air.

On the pursuer raising her action in the Court of Session in Scotland claiming damages for delay under article 19 of the *Convention and, alternatively, at* common law for breach of an implied condition of the contract that British Airways would take reasonable care for her safety, the Lord Ordinary, on the procedure roll, dismissed the action. He decided, *inter alia, that the pursuer's* claim for damages for delay was irrelevant and that the Warsaw Convention excluded recourse to any common law remedy by passengers.

Both the English and Scottish *appeals were heard together*.

Article 17 of the Convention provides: "The carrier is liable for damage sustained in the event of the death or wounding of a passenger or any other bodily injury suffered by a passenger, if *the accident which caused the* damage so sustained took place on board the aircraft or in the course of any of the operations of embarking or disembarking."

Article 18 provides for carrier's liability for damage to the registered baggage and article 19 covers damages for delay.

Article 24 provides: "(1) *In the* cases covered by articles 18 and 19 any action for damages, however founded, can only be brought subject to the conditions and limits set out in the Convention."

English appeal: Mr Clive *Nicholls, QC* and *Mr Tim Kerr* for the plaintiffs; Mr Robert Webb, QC and Mr Philip Shepherd for British Airways.

Scottish appeal: Mr C. N. McEachran, QC and Mr Peter Macdonald, both of the Scots Bar, *for the pursuer; Mr D. R. A.* Emslie, QC and Mrs M. L. B. G. Gilmore, both of the Scots Bar, for British Airways.

LORD HOPE said that the question in both appeals was whether the Warsaw Convention provided the exclusive cause of action and sole remedy for a passenger who claimed against the carrier for loss, injury and damage *sustained in the course of, or* arising out of international carriage by air.

In both cases claims were made against British Airways by passengers who had been travelling on a scheduled international flight *from the United Kingdom to* Malaysia via Kuwait. The flight left London Heathrow on August 1, 1990. It landed in Kuwait for refuelling on August 2, about five hours after Iraqi forces had begun to invade Kuwait at the commencement of the *Gulf War*.

The passengers and crew were *all taken prisoner by the Iraqis*. They were detained initially at Kuwait airport, then at Kuwait city and thereafter in Baghdad. The appellants, who were subsequently released and returned to the United Kingdom, claimed damages *against British Airways for the* consequences of their captivity.

Although there were some differences of detail between the two actions, the pursuer claimed only psychological injury, while the plaintiffs claimed also for bodily injury and loss of baggage, *and the* pursuer's claim was for breach of contract while the plaintiffs' claim was in negligence, the issue of law which arose in both of the appeals was *the same*.

The answer to the questions raised in the instant cases was to be found in the objects and structure of the Convention. The language used and the subject matter with which it dealt dem*onstrated that what was sought to* be achieved was a uniform international code, which could be applied by the courts of the contracting parties without reference to the rules of their own domestic law.

In the areas with which the Convention dealt, and the liability of the carrier was one of them, the code was intended to be uniform and to be exclusive also of any resort to the rules of domestic law.

Any person was free, unless *restrained by statute*, to enter into a contract with another on the *basis that his liability in damages* was excluded or limited if he was in breach of contract. Exclusion and limitation clauses were a commom feature of commercial contracts and contracts of carriage were no exception.

It was against that background, rather than a desire to provide *remedies to enable all losses to be* compensated, that the Convention had to be judged.

It was not designed to provide remedies against the carrier to enable *all* losses to be compensated. It was designed instead *to define those situations in which* compensation was to be available.

So it set out the limits of liability and the conditions under which claims to establish that liability, if disputed, were to be made. A balance was struck in the interests *of certainty and uniformity*.

The conclusion must be, therefore, that any remedy was excluded by the Convention, as the set of uniform rules did not provide for it. The domestic courts were not free to provide a remedy according to their own law, because to do that would be to undermine the Convention. *It would lead to the* setting alongside the Convention of an entirely different set of rules which would distort the operation of the whole scheme.

There was no escape from the conclusion that, where the Conven*tion had not provided a remedy, no* remedy was available.

Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Jauncey, Lord Mustill and Lord Steyn agreed.

Solicitors: English appeal: Raja & Partners, Southall; Beaumont & Son.

Scottish appeal: Pattinson & *Brewer for Drummond Miller*, WS, Edinburgh for Frank Lefevre *Practice, Aberdeen; Beaumont &* Son for Shepherd & Wedderburn, WS, Edinburgh.

Pleading fraud to set aside judgment

Zincroft Civil Engineering *Ltd* v Sphere Drake Insurance plc

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Millett and *Lord Justice Potter*

[Judgment November 26]

A defendant who suspected fraud by a plaintiff, but was reasonably *prevented or inhibited from raising* it in resisting an application for summary judgment, should not be precluded from adducing substantial evidence of fraud acquired shortly thereafter in order to set aside the judgment on appeal.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved *judgment* allowing an *appeal by the defendant, Sphere Drake Insurance plc*, against the decision of Mr Justice Longmore on February 20, 1995 granting the plaintiff, Zincroft Civil Engineering Ltd, summary judgment of its claim for payment under a con*tract of insurance with damages to* be assessed. The defendant's application to adduce further evidence was allowed and it was granted unconditional leave to defend.

Order 59, rule 10 of the Rules of the Supreme Court provides:

"(2) The Court of Appeal shall *have power to receive further* evidence on questions of fact ... but, in the case of an appeal from a judgment after trial or hearing of any cause or matter on the merits, no such further evidence (other than evidence as to matters which *have occurred after the date of the* trial or hearing) shall be admitted *except on special grounds*."

Mr Iain Milligan, QC and Mr Guy *Morpuss* for the defendant; Mr Stuart Isaacs, QC and Mr Philip Newman for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE POTTER said that on the application to adduce further evidence, the plaintiff had submitted that the defendant had to establish the three conditions propounded in *Ladd v Marshall* (*[1954] 1 WLR 1489*): (i) *the evidence* could not have been obtained with *reasonable* diligence for use at the trial; (ii) the evidence was such that, if given, it would probably have an important influence on the result of the case; and (iii) the evidence was *apparently credible*.

While it had been possible to *arrive* at a conclusion favourable to the defendant's application to adduce further evidence on the basis of the conventional *formula* set out in *Ladd v Marshall*, some time *had been spent in* argument upon the question of whether that formula was indeed definitive in *all cases, and in particular* in the case of a defendant applying to adduce further evidence in support of a plea of fraud following an adverse Order 14 judgment.

It was the defendant's submission that, while in such a case a defendant must demonstrate special grounds as required by Order 54, *rule 10(2), the* criterion by which such grounds should be measured should be one more flexible than was to be found in a rigid application of the *Ladd v Marshall* formula.

In his Lordship's judgment, that submission had much merit and it *did not seem to be precluded by authority. His Lordship would be* reluctant to hold that any rule of court should be so applied that a defendant who was suspicious of fraud but was reasonably prevented or sensibly inhibited from *raising it at the stage of summary judgment should, on acquiring* solid and substantial evidence of fraud shortly thereafter, be precluded from using it to set aside the judgment on appeal.

The plaintiff relied upon the maxim "interest reipublicae ut sit finis litium" [it is a matter of public concern that lawsuits are not *protracted*] *as the principle underlying Ladd v Marshall*.

It urged that there was no reason why evidence in support of a plea of fraud should not be treated in the same way as that relevant to any other defence potentially open to a defendant, and that in such a case the defendant's remedy, if any, *would properly lie in* an action to set aside the judgment as one obtained by fraud.

That did not seem to his Lordship a sufficient and sensible answer in the case of a summary judgment under Order 14 which, *though a hearing on the merits* for the purposes of Order 59, rule 10(2), was none the less an interlocutory judgment in an exant action. Far from fulfilling the maxim relied on, the course suggested would tend to proliferate *litigation rather than reduce it*.

In such a case, the setting aside of the summary judgment was a course both more just and more efficacious than requiring the defendant to choose between launching a fresh action to set *aside the judgment or suffering a* permanent sense of injustice.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Millett agreed.

Solicitors: Waltons & Morse; Bray Noorani.

Object of safety at work Act is not to dictate but to control

Canterbury City Council v Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Ltd

Before Mr Justice Turner

[Judgment November 27]

Section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 did not legislate as to what work could or could not be performed but was properly concerned *with the* manner of its *doing*.

Mr Justice Turner so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an appeal by Canterbury City Council against a decision of the Ashford Industrial Tribunal on January 29, 1996 to allow the appeal of Howletts and *Port Lympne Estates Ltd*, the operator of Howletts Zoo in Bekesbourne, near Canterbury.

The respondents had been served a prohibition notice under section 22 of the 1974 Act after an employee at Howletts was killed by a tiger whose enclosure he had gone in to clean.

Section 2 of the 1974 Act provides:

"(1) *It shall be the duty of* every employer to ensure, so far as is resonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at work of all of his employees.

"(2) ... the matters to which that duty extends include in particular — (a) the provision and maintenance of plant and systems of work that are, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe and without risks to health..."

Mr Hugh Carlisle, QC and Mr Mark Bishop for the appellant; Mr John Taylor, QC and Mr Robert Fookes for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE TURNER said that the tribunal had found that Howletts, which operated a programme of breeding endangered *species and* release *into the wild*, had the unique practice of social contact between animals and keepers.

That practice had many purposes including stimulation for the animals and assisting in moving the animals without the use of anaesthetic or other physical restraints which could induce panic or stress.

The approach of the zoo was based on respect for the personalities of animals rather than treating them as *exhibits*. Keepers at the zoo were not required to bond *with the tigers* and not all keepers were permitted to do so.

The tribunal also found that contact sessions with tigers presented a risk of serious injury or death.

The appellant submitted that *section 2* imposed an *absolute duty* on the employer. There was never a need for any keeper, the appellant said, to enter the enclosure in which tigers were freely roaming; everything which needed to be done within the enclosure could be performed with the animal confined to another part of the enclosure.

The rationale of the appellant's position was that since the Act was concerned with the result to be achieved, videlicet the safety of workers, that was something which was incapable of achievement *if* workers were *to* be permitted to enter enclosures in which tigers were freely roaming.

Since the tribunal had not made any express finding that it was necessary for the work to be done in the way in which the respondents did, *it* was not open to the tribunal to have found that there *was any advantage, let alone a* need, for keepers to enter the enclosure as they did.

The respondent said that the appellant's argument ignored the ethos of what Howletts was trying to achieve and in particular the underlying purpose of bonding. Bonding could not be achieved unless a *keeper entered* an enclosure in which a tiger was freely roaming.

The respondent submitted that there were two questions which had to be considered:

First what was the essential *nature of the undertaking* and the operating practice of the business and second, *having regard to* that essential nature and operating pratice, had the section 2 duty been met within the meaning of the phrase "so far as reasonably practicable"?

The object of the Act was not to *dictate what business the employer* was to carry out but was that the provisions of the Act should be applied to the business which the employer was in fact conducting.

His Lordship considered passages from *Coltness Iron Co v Sharp* ([1938] AC 90, 93 *and* 99) and said that there was embedded within them the concept that although in the ordinary way a dangerous piece of machinery had to be securely fenced, there might be circumstances concerned with *the particular task that the employer or employee was doing* which made it necessary that the activity, which would by any ordinary standard be regarded as dangerous, might nevertheless have legitimacy which justified it *but which would otherwise have* laid the employer open to proceedings for the breach of his statutory duty.

In his Lordship's judgment it was impossible to conceive in the circumstances that the Act could *have intended to outlaw* certain activities merely on the basis that they were dangerous.

In the result the construction of the Act for which the respondent contended was plainly correct. The proper interpretation of Part I of the Act had to be that it was concerned with the requirements *an employer had to take to see that* his employees were safe in the work which it was the employer's business to carry out.

The Act was not seeking to legislate as to what work could or could not be performed but was *properly concerned with the* manner of its doing.

Solicitors: Mr P. Wilson-Sharp, Canterbury; S. J. Berwin & Co.

Doctor's duty of care to job applicant

Baker v Kaye

Before Mr Robert M. Owen, QC

[Judgment December 6]

Where a doctor was retained by a company for the purpose of examining a potential employee for his medical fitness to do a job, the doctor owed a duty of care to *the potential employee in carrying* out his examination and in interpreting the results of that examination when reporting to the company.

Mr Robert M. Owen, QC, sitting as deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in dismissing proceedings brought by Peter Baker for negligence against Dr Georges Kaye.

Mr John Bowers for the plaintiff; *Mr Robert Seabrook, QC and* Miss Sally Smith for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP said it was clear that economic loss was a foreseeable consequence of the breach of the duty. The plaintiff's employment depended solely on *the assessment. The plaintiff had agreed to provide detailed* information about his state of health.

The defendant regarded himself as under a duty to advise the plaintiff to seek *medical* advice if the assessment revealed a medical condition.

Those features reveal a relationship of sufficient proximity. His *Lordship considered whether* in all the circumstances it was fair, just and reasonable for a duty to be imposed.

It was argued that it would not be fair just and reasonable because there was a conflict between the *discharge of the defendant's duty* to the company and any duty to the plaintiff.

The defendant's duty to the company was to take reasonable care in carrying out the assessment, in eliciting the material *information from the plaintiff*, in interpreting the test results and in arriving at a judgment as to whether or not to recommend the plaintiff for employment.

There was no conflict inconsistent with the imposition of a duty of care, nor other factors that militated against its imposition.

The plaintiff had failed to show that there was any breach of duty.

Solicitors: Graham Harvey; Le Brasseur J. Tickle.

Relevance of continued denial of guilt for Parole Board

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department and Another, Ex parte Lillycrop

Regina v Same and Another, Ex parte Powell

Regina v Same, Ex parte Scott

Before Lord Justice Schiemann and Mr Justice Butterfield

[Judgment November 27]

In *considering* whether to recommend for release on licence a long-*term prisoner* who had served half his sentence, and whose pattern of *offending* behaviour was such that there was a significant risk of *further offences* of a violent or sexual nature, the Parole Board was entitled to take into account the prisoner's continued denial of guilt in determining the extent to which he had examined his offending behaviour and had thus reduced the risk of re-offending.

But it was not permissible for the board to refuse to recommend the prisoner's release merely because he denied his guilt, without further consideration of the circumstances.

The *demands* of natural justice and fairness *required* that the board's decision letter should con*tain* a succinct and accurate summary of reasons sufficient to inform the prisoner why parole had not been recommended.

A court should examine with care evidence proffered to elucidate, correct or add to reasons contained in the decision letter and only act upon it with caution.

It should not substitute the reasons in the profferred evidence *for the reasons* in the decision letter.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment, dismissing applications for judicial review by Martin Lillycrop and Andrew Jon Scott, and granting Ronald George Powell's application for judicial review against decisions of the Parole Board refusing to recommend each of the long-term prisoners for release under section 35 of the *Criminal Justice Act* 1991, and against the refusal of the Secretary of State for the Home Department to authorise parole.

Mr James Turner for the applicants; Mr Steven Kovats for the secretary of state and the Parole Board.

MR JUSTICE BUTTERFIELD, delivering the judgment of the court, *said that where the pattern* of offending behaviour was such that there was a significant risk of a further offence being committed, particularly of a violent or sexual nature, and an applicant had not demonstrated by his conduct in prison that such risk had been reduced to an acceptable level, a *recommendation for* parole was unlikely to be made.

Part *of the conduct which the* board would inevitably and rightly look at would be the extent to which an applicant had examined the behaviour which led to his imprisonment.

Where because of denial of guilt no such examination had taken place it would be more difficult for an applicant to satisfy *the board* that the risk he posed when he was sentenced *had been reduced to an* acceptable level.

Each case turned on its own facts.

For the reasons set out in R v. Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Zulfikar (*The Times* July 26, 1995) with which their Lordships agreed, it was an impermissible approach for the board to say in respect of an applicant:

"This man denies his guilt; therefore, *without considering the* circumstances further, we will not *recommend* parole."

However, a denial of guilt coupled with an unwillingness to address offending behaviour was a factor to which the board had to have regard in assessing the risk to the public of further offending.

It was for the board to determine in each case the extent to which, if at all, that factor should influence its decision.

There was no statutory obligation upon the board to give reasons for its decision. However, the Parole Board Rules 1992 (Home *Office Circular 85/1992) provided* for the issue of a refusal note where *a prisoner had* not *been granted* parole.

The *demands of natural justice* and fairness demanded such disclosure. The decision letter should contain a succinct and accurate summary of the reasons leading to the decision reached. The purpose of the reasons was to tell the prisoner in broad terms why parole had not been recommended.

The reasons had to be such that the prisoner would know why a decision unfavourable to him had been reached. *However, the whole* of the board's reasoning process *need not be set out*.

The secretary of state and the board sought to rely upon affidavits sworn by a senior executive officer seconded to the board, to expand upon and explain the reasoning processes of the board in each of the decisions challenged by the applicants.

Two objections were raised in respect of that evidence. First, it was *submitted that the affidavits* contained objectionable hearsay because the officer was not present when the decisions were made; and second, that it was *inappropriate* to seek to supplement decision *letters by such evidence* because of the risk of ex post facto *rationalisation*.

There was clear judicial *precedent for the* admission of and reliance on such evidence by the court in similar circumstances: see *R v Parole Board, Ex parte Gittens* (*The Times* February 3, 1994) where Lord Justice Ralph Gibson had said:

"I see no general objection to the provision by an affidavit from an official of the Parole Board, in order to prove the reasons for a questioned decision, providing that the rules relating to an affidavit based upon information and belief are properly followed ... *Where, however*, an affidavit is appropriately prepared upon information and belief it is, of course, essential that the sources and grounds of information and belief be stated."

A similar situation was considered in *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Zulfikar (No 2)* (unreported, May 1, 1996).

As to the objection that in principle it was wrong for the *decision maker* to be allowed to amplify his reasoning set out in the decision, those decisions lay uneasily with other decisions in the field *of judicial review*.

R v Westminster City Council, Ex parte Ermakov ([1996] 2 All ER 302), set out the proper approach to be adopted in relation to the admission of evidence sought to explain reasoning in the decision-making process of the Parole Board in cases such as the present.

Accordingly, *where* evidence was proffered to elucidate, correct or add to the reasons contained in the decision letter, a court should examine the proffered evidence with care and should only act upon it with caution.

In particular, a court should not substitute the reasons contained in proffered evidence for the reasons advanced in a decision letter.

To do so would raise the perception, if not the reality, of subsequent rationalisation of a decision that had not been properly considered at the time.

But, given the limited extent to which such evidence was likely to be acted upon by a court, a senior civil servant should be permitted to give such *evidence* provided always that the source of his know*ledge and belief was clearly stated* in his affidavit.

Solicitors: Burroughs, Maidstone and Berry & Berry, Tonbridge; Treasury Solicitor.

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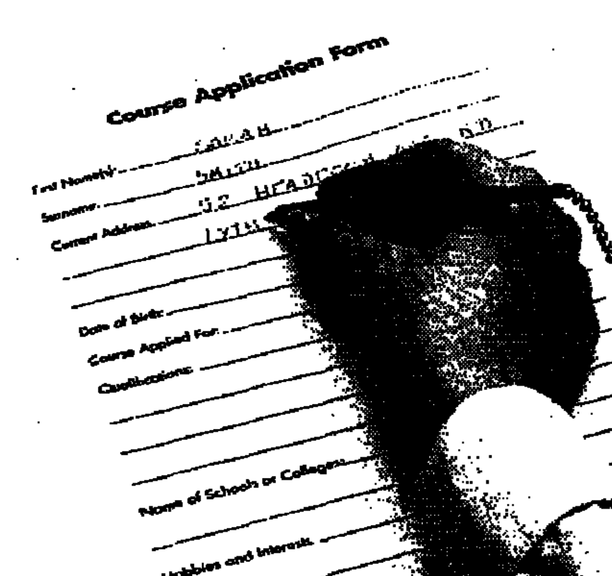

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EDUCATION

The college in crisis

David Charter on the continuing saga of the college that could not count its students

PAUL REEVEZ NEWS TEAM

Neil Preston, top left, Helen Chandler and the Dymock Arms. Below, protesting students at the college Main picture: John Bartholomew

Helen Chandler told Wrexham magistrates last week that six people's jobs at a country pub in the Welsh borders depended on her receiving a drinks licence. The court granted a temporary order to her pub manager after she explained she had been ill because of "an extraordinary set of circumstances that had caused difficulties".

Staff at Stoke-on-Trent College, Staffordshire — where Mrs Chandler is an assistant director, and her co-director at the pub, Neil Preston, is principal, and which has just announced 190 redundancies — feel her comments have added insult to injury. The redundancies come after news that the college will have to cut £8 million because its past two years' budgets have been based on vastly inflated student numbers.

Mrs Chandler has been absent from the college on paid sick leave since September, as has Mr Preston. Last month *The Times* traced the pair to the Dymock Arms, in Penley, Wrexham, which they started to renovate on their arrival this summer and had been helping to run, to the surprise of their 1,500 staff at Stoke.

They have not been seen at the oak-beamed pub since the disclosure but a clearer picture has emerged of Stoke's descent into financial crisis. At the heart seems to lie a lack of accountability at the most senior level of the kind that further education colleges last year pledged to Lord Nolan's inquiry into standards in public life that they would strive to overcome.

After Mr Preston's appointment three years ago, Stoke-on-Trent College, with 21,000 students, grew to become the eighth-largest in the country. Such was his expansionist vision that last year he announced plans for a £20 million third campus. But student numbers had been overestimated by 20 per cent.

Mr Preston was recruited from Amersham and Wycombe College, Buckinghamshire, where one of his last acts was to appoint Mrs Chandler, his vice-principal, as acting principal. She joined Stoke as marketing manager in June 1994. The pair were later to announce to Stoke's governing board that they had left their spouses and were having a relationship.

The board saw no reason for alarm because the situation had been made clear. What governors did not know was that Mr Preston and Mrs Chandler became directors of a company called The Pub Doctor Limited on September 26 last year. The Pub Doctor bought the Dymock Arms this August. The college has not been able to answer whether this was known or sanctioned by governors at any stage.

As at other further education colleges, such as Derby Wilmorton, overtaken by scandal since they all became independent from local authorities in 1992, it was a staff protest that eventually prompted governors to investigate.

Disquiet at Stoke culminated in two staff surveys. In July, more than 120 lecturers in the Natfhe union complained that Mr Preston's style was "dictatorial and bullying". George Mardle, the chairman of governors, called the survey "spurious". He resigned on September 20 after fellow governors refused to extend his appointment.

Mr Preston and Mrs Chandler went off sick on September 25 and 24 respectively, on the eve of a Unison survey showing that 97 per cent of staff lacked confidence in management. A week later the governors set up an inquiry, which later became a special committee to consider the dismissal of senior staff.

The extracurricular activities of the two senior managers are now seen as a sideshow in the tragedy that has befallen the college. However, governors find themselves handling a major disciplinary investigation at the same time as preparing a recovery plan for the Further Education Funding Council.

Mr Preston and Mrs Chandler obtained a High Court injunction on November 19, halting the special committee. This was overturned at the college's request on November 25, but delayed the committee's report, due on November 29, until next week. The funding council yesterday confirmed that it had ordered the college to repay £3.5 million from last year and would be giving it £2.8 million less than it budgeted for this year. It said the college was supposed to submit last year's student numbers by last December, but failed to do so until March. The figure was so unexpectedly low the college exercised its right to recalculate it and brought in a new system to start the process anew.

A funding council spokeswoman said: "The college did not know early enough it was undershooting its recruitment targets. The college chose to resubmit its data, which we often allow. It was confident that its system was wrong and the students were there, but the new figures showed it was still 18 per cent under. What is exceptional about this situation is that the management of the college did not react quickly enough."

Two years' budgets were worked out on the inflated figures. The funding council could only wait for it to supply correct numbers, but made its view on Mr Preston's plans clear. The spokeswoman said: "We have never been convinced that the college needed a third campus." The college has now dropped its expansion plan.

At Derby Wilmorton College, employees were shut out from ill-advised financial decisions. Michael Shattock, author of the official report on the college, saw parallels in the Stoke debacle. "Clearly," he said, "the governance structures at Stoke simply have not worked. If senior staff are allowed to run a pub somewhere and if they count a phantom student body, the accountability lines through the college must be very insecure."

He questioned whether part of the problem was "governors who don't ask questions, are pleased to be invited on to a board and simply think the dynamic principal should be supported". He recommended that every college have an effective secretary, registrar and audit procedure to ensure that real questions are asked and accurate student numbers produced.

Mr Shattock shared the funding council view that problems such as those at Stoke and Derby were not endemic among the 449 colleges, which have had to cope with enormous pressures both to expand and cut costs. That leaves little Christmas cheer for staff at Stoke and a meeting on Monday called on the funding council to arrange repayment terms that would reduce the need for redundancies.

However, the season of goodwill prompted one employee to write to the *Stoke Sentinel* on Tuesday commiserating with Mrs Chandler over the six jobs dependent on her pub venture.

"I am sure," he wrote, "that the 200 people facing redundancy at the college would all willingly put their hands in their pockets for a whip-round if these unfortunate people were to lose their jobs as a result of Mrs Chandler not being granted a licence. Perhaps in turn Mrs Chandler and Mr Preston will dip into their own pockets for a whip-round for the devastated staff."

> 'Perhaps they will have a whip-round for the staff'

Beware this state control

James Tooley sees dangers behind an attempt to raise 'standards'

Lovers of liberty should be wary of the *Standards Over Time* report and Gillian Shephard's associated recommendations. Of course, the concerns that prompted the report needed investigation. Each year, there has been an inexorable rise in the percentage of young people passing at A level and GCSE. Is this because candidates are brighter, more diligent, or are standards simply declining?

But the report shows the Government is exploiting an ambiguity in the notion of "standards" to extend its control over the curriculum in the sixth form, through the back door. Moreover, there is a danger of the "nationalisation" of the examination boards, again under the smokescreen of concern for standards.

The two distinct meanings of "standards" are clear: the "grade standard" checks whether particular topics are assessed and marked in the same ways over the years. The "examination demand" asks whether topics in the syllabus are more or less demanding. To ascertain "grade standards" clearly needs candidate scripts, to see how lenient or otherwise examiners have been, as well as mark schemes and examination papers. However, the examining boards were either unable or unwilling (we have only each exam board's word that scripts were unavailable) to find enough scripts on which to make meaningful comparisons. For example, no coursework was available at all, from any year. At A level, no scripts were available from 1975, one (out of four) of the boards had none for 1985 and the others had fewer than ten each for each subject/grade.

This unavailability of archival material is scandalous. How could bodies entrusted with maintaining standards be so cavalier with the evidence? So whether grade standards have declined or not is impossible to ascertain, and the *Standards over Time* report rightly hedges its bets here, while making the sensible recommendation that a national archive be established to facilitate future comparisons.

However, on the "examination demand" standard, the report is more adventurous. Here we see the undesirable introduction of extension of control over the curriculum at sixth-form level. Though it seems that the report is simply pointing out the "more demanding" aspects of the curriculum that have been left out over the years, resulting in a "lowering of standards", it is in fact making value judgments about what should and should not be in the curriculum.

For example, in maths, the "coordinate geometry of conic sections" has been abandoned. This was a difficult part of the curriculum, so presumably its omission would make standards lower. However, algebra is also being increasingly marginalised, which lowers standards, so recommendations are given to reinforce its place in the curriculum. At English A level, students can virtually avoid anything but 20th-century novels. This lowers standards, they say, because Chaucer and Milton were hard. This is bad, so these authors should be reintroduced.

In both cases, the issue is that the Government previously lacked control over the curriculum at sixth-form level, and is seeking to introduce this, through concern over standards. The danger is that a future Chief Inspector of Schools may want to impose anti-educational proposals, and could use the precedent.

The second danger of the *Standards over Time* recommendations is the proposed tightening-up of exam boards. It is argued that schools are "shopping around" for easier examinations so they can score higher in the league tables. It is not, however, clear that this happens. If teachers can find those easier boards and syllabuses, it is also easy for employers' associations and universities, and hence common knowledge that syllabus X from Board A is easier than others. But surely the objection is that some syllabuses are not of A-level standard.

This brings us to a less dangerous solution than reducing the number of examination boards, already only four, presumably to be reduced to one (hence nationalised) or two. The boards must be regulated, by Ofsted, to ensure that they offer only syllabuses which meet the required standards of A level.

All that is needed is for any A-level syllabus to be registered as being of A-level standard. Schools should be able to shop around for their most suitable option, choosing from a diversity of exam boards rather than from a state monolith.

We must not allow the Government to grab control of the curriculum at A level nor allow this dangerous step towards nationalisation of exam boards. Education is already too politicised.

> The report is making value judgments on subjects

Christmas story's new look

Hugh Thompson sees new ways of acting out the Nativity

TONY WHITE

Bossy fairy Clare Morton says the characters are important

Every year at this time we hear of the end of the nativity play. The tabloid newspapers have a field day as a council or school in a culturally mixed inner-city area drops the time-honoured ritual for being irrelevant or out of date. But while the tabloids may like sensational stories, Alison Seaman, the deputy director of the National Society (for the Promotion of Religious Education) spends her life visiting schools nationally.

She says: "There may be a few schools who because of their multicultural pupils feel it is not appropriate to celebrate Christmas every year, but generally our experience is that the nativity play is not only widespread but is growing with a new lease of life and popularity. This is because more schools are looking at the story from a different angle and acting stories, which contain the same message but with a slightly different focus."

Typical of this trend was the performance this week by the infants (four to seven-year-olds) at St Michael's in Southfields, Putney, southwest London. The 135 children sang, acted, read and costumed their way through a story, which told of the bossy Christmas tree fairy who wouldn't let certain of last year's decorations be on the tree because they did not meet her idea of perfection. She even turned down the nativity figures because they were so tattered and torn.

When it was pointed out by the children that they were the most important part of the Christmas scene, and that the discarded decorations were also a valuable part of the Christmas picture, the fairy left the stage. But one of the shepherds brought her back.

David Kempster, the head of infants, says: "We did the Nativity the same way for 20 years and in the end not only do the children get a bit bored doing the same performance every year but so do the teachers. They have a lot of enthusiasm and ideas, and doing a different play around the same theme keeps it fresh and exciting."

For infants, the nativity play dominates the Christmas term with its rehearsals, costume fitting, learning of lines and the series of performances. For the teachers, bringing all the pieces together so they are "right on the night" can "be something of a nightmare", as the acting head Connie Cooling says. Educationally and socially, the performance, with its reading, music, teamwork and confidence building aspects, is considered a central experience.

The head of music, Sheila Johnson, whose choirs have achieved an impressive local reputation, says: "Bringing everything together into the performance is rather special. And the children are far more likely to remember the central message, the story, if they have acted it out rather than passively learnt it in class."

But what of the children? Clare Morton, six, was the impressive bossy fairy. She says: "I want everything to be perfect and I think that I am important, but it is the characters from the Nativity who are the most important. We have Christmas only because that is when Jesus was born."

Oliver Beatson, who is in the same class, felt sorry for those schools who didn't do a nativity play. "It's a treat for the mums and dads and also reminds us all of the meaning of Christmas." However, some of the younger ones had become a little confused.

Genevieve Barratt, five, who played a fairy-light, says: "I don't think Mary and Joseph are very important, they come on only at the end and they do not sing or say anything." But her friend, George Steer, who played a wise king, says: "We do the play and have Christmas only because it is Jesus's birthday."

> 'We do the play only because it is Jesus's birthday'

How to resist the copycat syndrome

Chris Barton advises against the temptations of plagiarism

In the brave new world of modular courses, Christmas is a crunch time: deadlines loom for the first piece of assessment that counts towards a degree. All over the country, lecturers will be warning their students not to ruin their lives by succumbing to the temptation of plagiarism.

At school, it was "copying off" your classmates rather than from published scholarship. There was one technique for tests and another for homework. In tests, guilty eyes would swivel to the next desk, where the received defence was to wrap a spare upper limb around the coveted opus, shooting back suspicious glances the while. For the virtuous, this was mere affectation, the better to demonstrate their own honesty. So, also for the thick, wishing to appear otherwise. Homework — "prep" at my school — might be shared with a friend, or extracted from fellow scholars of greater intellectual, but lesser physical, ability.

Now the homework of schooldays has become the continuous assessment of higher education. Demonised at GCSE level as being done by parents, the HE version cheerfully allows students to pay an impecunious academic at (one hopes) another university to do the job.

As officer-in-charge Night School, I have been explaining the meaning of plaggers, à la Staffordshire Law School, to blank-faced acolytes. It is probably easier to explain the meaning of life. The purpose, of course, is not so much to save them from dishonour as to cover my back, come the inevitable appeal. The schooldays analogy works OK for "copying", but what constitutes illicit reworkings of the published word is a bit trickier. While I was sitting in on a hearing the other day, and a colleague was substantiating the charge to a half-taking-it-in shattered young life, it seemed more sensible to advise them how not to plagiarise, or at least how not to be guilty of it. We can't all be Socrateses, making it up for ourselves.

An admiring, upfront recognition lets you rip off the rest of the work without fear of objection (at least, no fear of the grateful originator). So kick off with a big, scrupulously acknowledged quote in indented italics .... "definitive source .... seminal .... only place to start". Do not merely slip it into the bibliography, although do not omit it, either.

Then segue into a lengthy abstract of the mark's work, occasionally salting it away in the footnotes an "and see *op cit*" (implying to the unsuspicious that it says something different from what you've said, but providing an alibi if challenged).

Finally, do the same with another scholar, but dismissively so. It can hardly be plagiarism if you're disagreeing with it.

● *The writer is Professor of Family Law at Staffordshire University. No one ever plagiarises his work.*

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BOXING

Golota presents tough challenge to establishment

From Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent, in Atlantic City

ANDREW GOLOTA could upset the plans of the established heavyweights if he beats Riddick Bowe at the Convention Center here tomorrow. Golota was one of a younger group of heavyweights who was supposed to take over from the men at the top at present in two or three years' time, but he jumped ahead of the pack by surprising Bowe last July. He was on the point of knocking out the American in the seventh round of their contest at Madison Square Garden when he was disqualified for a low blow, his fourth of the night.

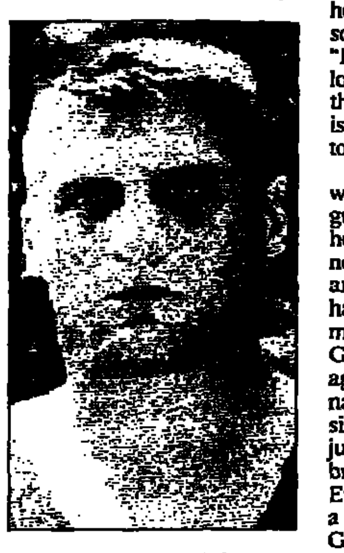
Now that he has sprung into prominence as a result of that performance, and the riot that immediately followed it — which, in turn, gave Golota worldwide publicity — everyone is asking if he can go all the way.

Quite apart from how he fares against Bowe, he looks the best of those coming through the heavyweight ranks and so, in time, he could become the first white world heavyweight champion since Gerrie Coetzee, of South Africa. The 28-year-old Pole may not be as clever and skilful as the young black heavyweights, but Golota's robust style more than compensates for technical deficiencies and equips him to challenge at the highest level.

Golota sometimes looks like Drago, the Russian in *Rocky IV*, and sometimes (when he wears a baseball cap) reminds you of Joe Bugner, but he has more substance than the two of them put together and is the kind of tough customer most leading heavyweights would like to avoid — especially after what he did to Bowe, Danell Nicholson, the promising young star of Emanuel Steward, and Samson Po'Uha. Golota stopped Nicholson, but not before stunning him with a head-butt he could not control; Po'Uha, who is believed to have one of the hardest punches in the division, was sent to the floor five times, but not before Golota had bitten him in the neck.

In the riot that followed the Bowe bout, he had his head slashed by a mobile telephone. He made light of the 13 stitches that he received and, while he was being escorted to his hotel, he was still so full of devilment that he stole the accompanying police officer's truncheon from his belt.

Golota's matchmaker, Carl Moretti, said: "I had the feeling that he had been in a police wagon before. He jumped in and said: 'I got the window.' When we were walking to the hotel room, he says to me, 'Look' and opens his jacket and shows me the night stick. He gave it back to the cop he took it from. The cop signed it and gave it back to him."



'He could become the next white world heavyweight champion'

Once crossed, Golota has no time for niceties. On one occasion, when a man ripped his shirt in a bar in Warsaw, Golota set about him, stripping him of all his clothes and dumping them in the garbage outside the club before walking off.

In the gym, he reverts to his gentle giant side, his surly face breaking into quick little smiles as he relates his escapades. When asked why he threw those low punches at Bowe, he replied with disarming candour: "Sometimes you have to protect yourself [from the rabbit punches Bowe was landing]."

However, his trainers, Lou Duva and Roger Bloodworth, are now concentrating on getting Golota to keep his punches up. He has been training with Derek Williams, the former Commonwealth heavyweight champion from south London, who said: "First week, he kept hitting me low. This is the fifth week. I think he is getting over it. He is very agile, strong and seems to have a good chin."

For all his rough-housing ways, Golota has a distinguished amateur record. Such heavy-handed tactics would not have been tolerated by the amateurs and he would not have picked up so many medals. Born in Warsaw, Golota started boxing at the age of 13. He won the Polish national title seven times, a silver medal in the world junior championships, a bronze and a gold in the European championship and a bronze in the Olympic Games at Seoul.

After marrying his wife, Mariola, he went to live in Chicago in 1990. He wanted to be a truck driver, but when he was training at a gym, he was noticed by the gym owner, Bob O'Donnell, who took him under his wing. O'Donnell helped him with an English tutor and guided him on his career. Golota has a record of 29 contests of which he has lost one, and 25 bouts have ended inside the distance.

O'Donnell took him to Duva at Main Events, New Jersey, and the promotion company and the veteran trainer set about smoothing out Golota's "straight up, European style". Duva said: "Golota is such a natural athlete. At 18, he could run 100 metres in 11sec. He is easy to train and has started to adapt to the pro style. He is a fanatical trainer and he won't stop until he gets it right."

MARC ASPLAND

Suzie Ellis, the cox of Guilt, the Cambridge Boat Race trial eight, had every reason to smile yesterday after her crew recorded a time of 16min 41sec, four seconds inside the record for the event (Mike Rosewell writes). Although they began a length inside the official start, the time was a significant riposte to the Oxford trial eights, who performed commendably on Monday. Ellis guided her crew in a frantic contest for the best tide with the other trial boat, Innocence, that was to prove decisive. She was, in the view of Guy Pooley, the umpire, "not quite disqualification material", although the bow side men in Innocence felt their rival's waves until Guilt moved away from Barnes Bridge to the finish.

Brown stewing nicely for European title

David Powell finds Great Britain's leading cross-country runner happy with his role as favourite to take top honours this weekend

For the British international cross-country runner, the cooking instructions for a successful season are clear: low boil now, high boil later. Be fit, but not too fit, for the European championships in December; be flying come the world championships in March. It is impossible, the theory goes, to peak for both, and again for the track season.

Jon Brown's kitchen smells good. He is, he believes, likely to become Great Britain's first European champion in Charleroi, Belgium, on Sunday, and still have every chance of following the hors-d'oeuvres with a tasty main course. "I certainly want to improve on last season," Brown said, with reference to the coming world championships in Turin. Last season he finished twelfth, higher than any British man for seven years.

First, though, Charleroi. If there was any doubt that Brown should be considered favourite to win after finishing as the leading European in the world championship last winter, there cannot be now after a result last weekend that suggests that the title is as good as his. He beat Paul Tergat, the world champion, from Kenya, to win the Llodio ten-kilometre cross country in Spain by 15sec.

Though a professional runner, Brown retains a spirit Corinthian in core, centred on wanting a top-six finish at the world championships. If he achieved that, it would bring him neither fame nor fortune. A more achievable route to recognition would be to win the European title, but any thought of peaking for Sunday and taking the world championship less seriously never crossed his mind. "I am in nowhere near my best shape because I have done only four hard workouts since the Olympics," Brown, who was tenth in the 10,000 metres in Atlanta, said. "Beating Tergat just confirms that my training in November went well. If I set out with the specific intention of preparing for this race, I think my world cross-country preparations would suffer. For me, the world cross country means a lot more."

Brown: confidence high

It is the hardest race of the year, but without the commercial clout of the track season. "I realise I could make the top half dozen and it would make no difference, people would not be interested," Brown said. "The world cross country is for my own personal satisfaction and nothing else.

"Even if I got a medal, so what? It does not have a high profile. It is a shame because it is the most difficult race to win, more than any Olympic gold." It brings together steeplechasers, 5,000, 10,000 metres and marathon runners. Brown, like David Bedford and Ian Stewart before him, speaks his mind. "Haphazard," was how he described Britain's team build-up for the world championships last year. "It is just hobby preparation," he said, critical that the British Athletic Federation (BAF) did little for distance runners. Last summer he accused fellow British runners of lacking commitment.

Brown, 25, rates his chances for Sunday as "fairly good — I would be disappointed if I did not win." Ian Stewart, the last British man to win a senior international cross-country championship, took the view that "*first is first and second is nowhere*". To assist the reputation of British distance running in its present recovery, Brown believes that he must win. "It would have to be a win, otherwise it would not mean anything," he said. Just kitchen talk.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan
Bridge correspondent

In the refresher today, I want to explain an extension of the attitude signals that I have been discussing recently. First, an example: you are defending a spade contract and your partner leads the ace of hearts. (Remember, our lead conventions are to lead top of a sequence.) This is what you see:

♥J42
♥A led — N W E S — (i) ♥93 (ii) ♥Q93

As East, in both cases you play the nine, an encouraging signal. The logic is that in both cases you want your partner to go on with the suit: when you have the doubleton it is because you want to get a ruff, but when you have the queen it is because you want your partner to cash out.

The reason I introduce this example is that it is a hybrid between length-showing and attitude signals. In general you indicate attitude on your partner's lead. However there are situations where you would give count. Again you are East, defending a No-trump contract:

♠QJ4
♠3 led — N W E S — (i) ♠965 (ii) ♥95

Declarer puts up the queen. Look at the problem from your partner's point of view. If he started with K 10 8 3 2, he will want to know if declarer started with A x or A x x of the suit. If A x, next time West gets the lead he can lead a second low card, knowing that the declarer has to play the ace. But if declarer has A x x, West must switch to get East in to continue the original suit.

The solution is to play the five from holding (i), and the nine from holding (ii), showing your length. To fit that into our rules about attitude signals we add this proviso:

When the high-card strength in a suit led by your partner is not in doubt then a signal by you is length-showing, *not* attitude.

Here, when you can't beat the queen, your partner knows the location of any missing high card. So you are in length-showing mode. Contrast that with a position I discussed in a previous refresher, where your partner led a low card and the declarer played the ace from dummy's A x x. Now the location of the high cards *was* in doubt, so you showed your attitude — high means you have an honour, low means you have just small cards.

♠KQ4
♠J led — N W E S — ♠32

Declarer puts on the queen. Clearly you would win the ace if you had it, so the high-card strength is not in doubt. Play the three, showing an even number. It may help West later in the hand.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

Anand's birthday

Viswanathan Anand, the Indian grandmaster, celebrated his 27th birthday in Las Palmas with a win against Vassily Ivanchuk. This brought the Indian level in joint first place with Garry Kasparov. Both players have two points out of three. In the third round Kasparov drew with Vladimir Kramnik, while Anatoly Karpov drew with Veselin Topalov. Karpov and Kramnik have 1½ points, while Topalov and Ivanchuk have one each.

Anand's victory against Ivanchuk was a complicated clash in which the material advantage swung backwards and forwards. The position finally resolved itself into an endgame where Ivanchuk had three pawns in exchange for White's bishop. Discouraged by the turn of events, Ivanchuk chose to resign without being shown the technical process. Most players in his situation would have opted to play on.

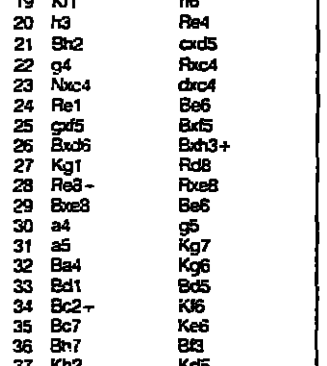
White: Viswanathan Anand
Black: Vassily Ivanchuk

Ruy Lopez December 1996

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	a6
4	Ba4	Nf6
5	0-0	Bc5
6	Nxe5	Nxe5
7	d4	Nxe4
8	Re1	Be7
9	Rxe4	Ng6
10	c4	0-0
11	Nc3	d6
12	Nd5	Bh4
13	Qh5	c6
14	Rxh4	Qxh4
15	Qxh4	Nxh4
16	Nb6	Rb8
17	Bf4	Nf5
18	d5	Re8
19	Kf1	h6
20	h3	Re4
21	Bh2	cxd5
22	g4	Rxc4
23	Nxc4	dxc4
24	Re1	Be6
25	gxf5	Bxf5
26	Bxd6	Bxh3+
27	Kg1	Rd8
28	Re8+	Rxe8
29	Bxe8	Be6
30	a4	g5
31	a5	Kg7
32	Ba4	Kg6
33	Bd1	Bd5
34	Bc2+	Kf6
35	Bc7	Ke6
36	Bh7	Bf3
37	Kh2	Kd5
38	Bc2	Be4
39	Bd1	Kd4
40	Be2	Bd3
41	Bb6+	Kd5
42	Bd1	f5
43	Kg3	Ke5
44	Bc5	Kf6
45	Bh5	f4+
46	Kh2	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

UMBLES
a. An ecclesiastical apology
b. Collywobbles
c. Entrails

HAPTODYSPHORIA
a. Bad breath
b. Dislike of touch
c. Baldness

FORMICATE
a. Coloured glass
b. To swarm
c. With pointed head

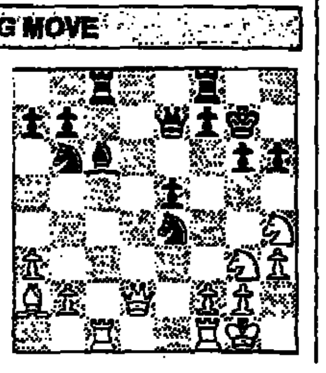
RESIPISCENCE
a. With a zestful taste
b. Wisdom
c. Repentance

Answers on page 42

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is a variation from the game Alekhine — Capablanca, Buenos Aires 1927. Black has just captured a pawn on e4 and uncovered an attack against White's knight on h4. How should White respond?



Solution on page 42

SPORTS LETTERS

Rowell must understand need for substitutions

From Mr E. S. Harvey

Sir, For many years tactical substitutions have occurred in many international sports including ice hockey, basketball, football, baseball, American football. Jack Rowell, the England rugby union coach, either does not appreciate the tactical benefits of substitution or misunderstands its rationale.

Substitution allows the coach to use his own judgment as to whether to replace a tired or injured player, to alter and hopefully improve the style of play or even, by such intervention, to hope for divine providence to support his decision. It should and need not be left to the player to make such a decision; he won't go off unless he has to.

Mr Rowell's refusal to replace the England half backs during the second half of the match against the New Zealand Barbarians, and his post-match reasoning, clearly showed that, in his view, the effect on morale of any replaced player is more important than using able substitutes who may do better.

The passing and kicking of both half backs left much to be desired and two fresh pairs of legs might have made all the difference. The wise and astute New Zealand Barbarians coach clearly thought so, and look what happened in the last quarter of the match!

Mr Rowell must be asked to give more thought to the obvious benefit that sensible tactical substitution can provide and be big enough to ignore the disappointment of the replaced player, preferring to consider the best interest of the team and to use his squad more intelligently.

Yours sincerely,
E. S. HARVEY,
4 Gill Hill Lane,
Radlett,
Hertfordshire WD7 8DF.

From Mr J. Dodwell

Sir, May I suggest that the time has come for your newspaper to lead a campaign to change the ridiculous tap penalty rule which means that another penalty is awarded if the opposition have not withdrawn ten metres? We have now had to sit through the Italy and New Zealand Barbarians games, where the defects in this rule have been very obvious.

I quite understand why the opposition should withdraw ten metres when a tap penalty is awarded, but they should be given time to do so. At the moment, the penalty can be taken immediately — before the opposition has had a chance to withdraw. If the side with the penalty rushes forward and the opposition resist the temptation to oppose within the first ten metres, then a try is very likely — which is why the opposition always does interfere and break the rules again.

I suggest that either:

a) the opposition have a fixed number of seconds during which to withdraw, following which the tap penalty can be taken. Or:

b) if the team awarded the penalty does not want to wait, the opposition can play on immediately.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN DODWELL,
6a Hagsdell Road,
Hertford,
Hertfordshire SG13 8AG.

Time to cry foul

From Mr J. Hind

Sir, In his report on Leeds United v Chelsea (December 2), Rob Hughes was so right in drawing attention to the disgusting amount of foul play in Premiership matches.

In recent televised games, players of standing and experience have tripped, kicked or elbowed any opponent near enough to attack! Players jostle and are jostled when corners are taken, others dive professionally in or into the penalty area and even the referees suffer the jostling.

We read that referees are to have a meeting to discuss the high number of red cards issued. The media targets the referees rather than the players who create the problems. Perhaps it is the Professional Footballers' Association which should be calling a meeting.

Yours faithfully,
JIM HIND,
8 Wickwood Court,
St Albans AL1 4QE.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

BBC coverage is still racing ahead

From Mr R. Grieve

Sir, I am writing with regard to your article about the quality of BBC Television's coverage of racing (December 2). Some 18 months ago I wrote to Peter O'Sullevan expressing my concern that the BBC had fallen behind Channel 4 after the loss of the Cheltenham Festival.

It had for some time hugely annoyed me that, during the BBC's shared coverage with other sports, it would switch to a race almost as the stalls opened and leave barely before the winning jockey had dismounted. Hardly worth the trouble and frustrating for O'Sullevan and Julian Wilson.

However, I do think the shock of losing their "Jewel in the Crown", the Cheltenham Festival, was a blessing in disguise for the BBC, as it seemed to spark it into life and herald coverage of the big French classics and also evening races.

I find Channel 4 excellent in its quality of races covered, but it cannot touch the BBC with its tradition of going to the stables and providing beautiful scenery and music to match.

I find Jimmy Lindley's comments are always excellent and give us a jockey's view and show great knowledge of the thoroughbred racehorse. The Grand National coverage is also second to none.

Give me Julian Wilson and the stunning Sussex Downs on a glorious July day at Goodwood rather than the betting-obsessed ramblings of John McCririck.

Long live BBC racing!

Yours sincerely,
R. W. GRIEVE,
3 Brideshill Cottages,
Allendale,
Northumberland NE97 9EH.

Time to toast Croft's original talent

From Mr K. Phillips

Sir, R. D. B. Croft cannot be pleased to be described as an Englishman (December 4). Croft is a bilingual Welshman, the original and true Briton, a fact which explains why your report also observes that he is the only member of the English cricket team who is willing and able to adjust to an alien culture. Is it any wonder why we in Wales are more sympathetic to the idea of Brussels rather than a London-based government?

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH PHILLIPS,
7 Bryncethin Road,
Ammanford,
Dyfed SA18 1YP.

From Mr M. Diddams

Sir, It is gratifying to see that the moves made by the MCC/TCCB/ECB, or whatever they are calling themselves today, are clearly paying dividends. The change from three to four-day county games, the "downsizing" of wicketkeepers and replacing full-time permanent posts with temporary, part-time ones, have resulted in a marked improvement in performances by the England team, as was shown by the result of their game against Mashonaland in Zimbabwe.

England lost by only seven wickets and made the game last nearly three days. The Australian and West Indies teams must be quaking in their boots at the thought of having to play England in the future.

Yours elated,
M. DIDDAMS,
21, Vincent Road,
Sittingbourne,
Kent ME10 3DD.

هكذا من الاصل

Mansell prepares for life in the fast lane

From Oliver Holt in Barcelona

IT WAS all over quickly for Nigel Mansell yesterday, almost as if the second day of his test here was academic. Sixteen laps in the morning on a track still treacherous after a downpour at dawn, then into a Ford Scorpio parked behind the Jordan garage for a lunchtime dash to the airport with his wife, Rosanne. He carried the air of a man who had already made his mind up.

It is still far from certain that the 1992 world champion will be back in Formula One next season, but things, increasingly, are pointing that way. His wage demands will be substantial, but the feeling is that they will not be a stumbling block. Jordan's main sponsors, Benson and Hedges, could help to bankroll the move and Bernie Ecclestone, the sport's ringmaster, may also contribute.

The factor at the heart of Mansell's decision, in fact, is likely to be his willingness to commit himself to a hectic 17-race season after 18 months of living life at a more leisurely pace, building up his golf course at Woodbury Park, in Devon, and knocking down his handicap. Yesterday, before he left, he made it clear that he is craving a return to life in the fast lane.

"I don't think you ever lose the taste for it," Mansell said. "It does give you a buzz, but it frightens the hell out of you sometimes, too. It is the closest thing to the edge of life you can get, especially when it was wet like this morning and the car is difficult to drive.

"The last two days have been a wonderful experience and it has given me a lot of food for thought. I have got no illusions about the commitment, the fact that you have to live, breathe, eat and sleep it, because I have been in the situation before. I know what it takes.

Mansell: considering options

"Over the next few days, we will go away and consider our future. Our future could include driving next year in one of several different formulas and it goes without saying that the Jordan team is one of those options. There are a lot of things that are going to come into play."

Mansell was again outpaced by his prospective team-mate, Ralf Schumacher, yesterday and the younger brother of the double world champion offered a more sobering view of the Englishman's performance. Not a young man noted for his lack of confidence, Schumacher said he would have been dismayed if Mansell had gone quicker than him after 18 months away from the sport.

"I would have been very disappointed," he said. "In fact, I think I would have stopped Formula One if Nigel had been quicker than me. In principle, I think it would be good for us to have someone with his experience, but after such a long break, I am not sure if the time he had with Williams would be helpful to us now. Motor racing is not about money or your name, it is about what you do."

If Mansell returns, he will set his sights on becoming the leading British driver next year. To achieve that, he will have to beat not only the world champion, Damon Hill, in his TWR Arrows-Yamaha, but also David Coulthard in his McLaren-Mercedes. Coulthard, one of the most affable of grand prix drivers, replaced Mansell at Williams at the start of 1995. Yesterday, in the paddock behind the garages, a quieter, moodier place than on the weekend of a race, he mulled over the pros and cons of Mansell's return.

"There is part of me that thinks: 'How many comebacks is he going to make?'" Coulthard said. "But Nigel has always been a hero of mine and it would be great for the sport to have him back. You can forget about the times he set over the last two days. If he was qualifying, he would be pulling extra tenths out all over the place. I'm sure he had a lot in reserve." Perhaps, when the talking is done and the decision is made, we will be allowed to find out.

Cricket looks ahead with end of TCCB

THE Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) wound itself up yesterday with what Tim Lamb, its cricket secretary, called "a tinge of sadness, but in a harmonious spirit, and with a mood of optimism". On January 1 Lamb becomes the chief executive of the English Cricket Board, which will be the future governor of the first-class and recreational game in the United Kingdom.

At the meeting, the TCCB agreed that counties who rest Test players at the request of the chairman of selectors would be compensated by £500 a day — £2,500 for a four-day championship match and a Sunday league fixture — and that contracts for overseas players should not exceed two years, though they may roll over.

Cash in short supply

SWIMMING: Competitors could have been forgiven for feeling short-changed as the first heats of the inaugural European short-course championships got underway in Rostock, Germany last night (Craig Lord writes). While prize-money of almost £250,000 had been billed for "top performers in all 38 events" by the European Swimming League, the governing body yesterday announced that that figure was a maximum limit to be distributed not among all winners, but in parcels of about £2,000 to those who break European short-course records over the next three days.

Gerg strikes first

SKIING: Hilde Gerg, of Germany, achieved her season's goal in the first World Cup ski race of the 1996-97 European circuit with an impressive super-giant slalom victory over her countrywoman, Katja Seizinger, in Val d'Isère yesterday. "It was my main objective this season to win a second World Cup victory at last," she said after beating Seizinger by 0.39sec. "I had been waiting for that moment for nearly two years."

Price of citizenship

GOLF: Zimbabwean authorities are reported to have ordered Nick Price to stop flying the country's flag until his citizenship is formalised. Dumiso Dabengwa, the Home Affairs minister, was quoted by the *Financial Gazette* newspaper as saying Price, who holds a British passport and has been playing golf claiming to represent Zimbabwe, should stop doing so. Born in South Africa and raised in Zimbabwe, Price renounced Zimbabwean citizenship in 1984.

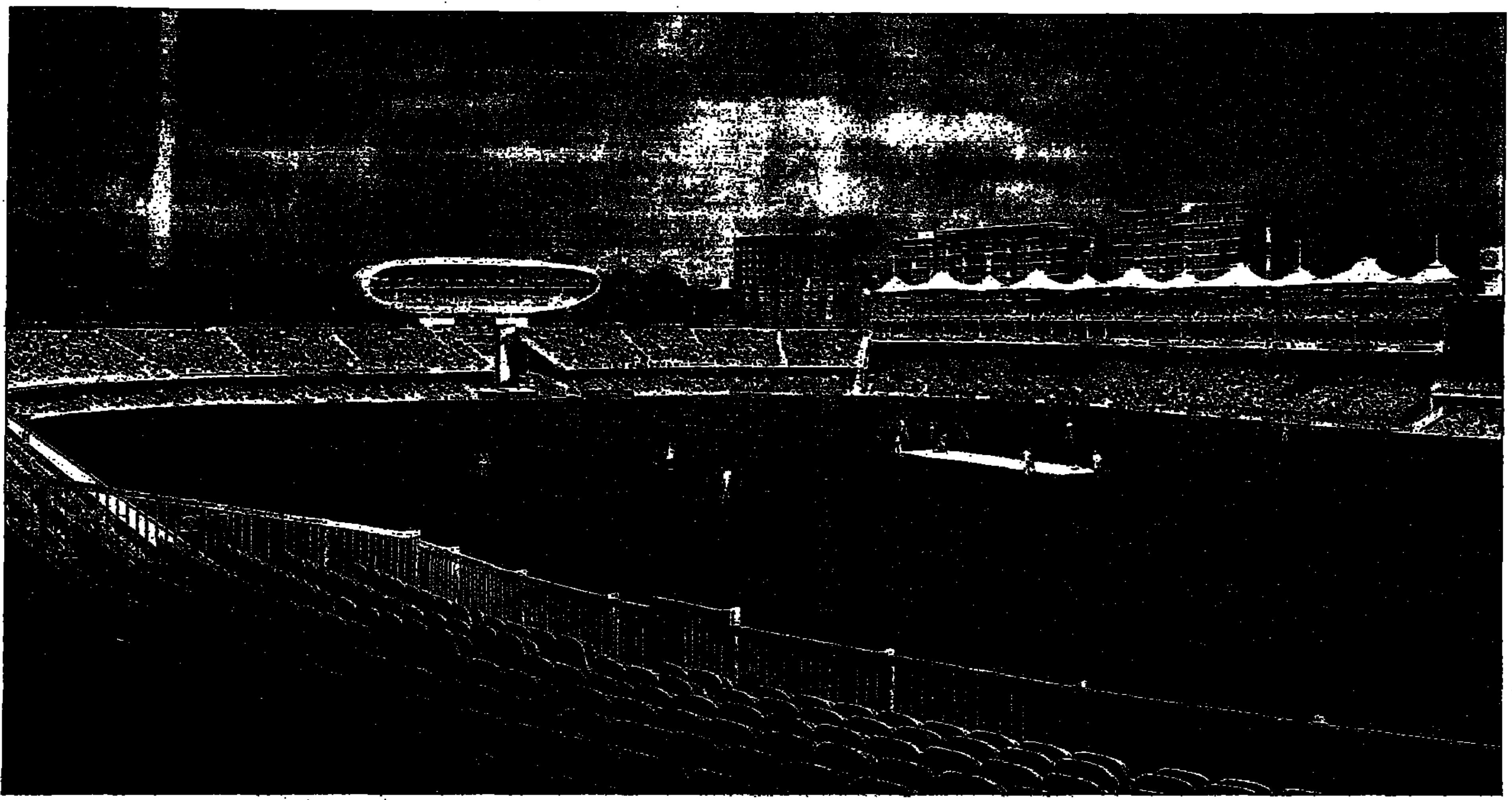
Hall still on a high

BADMINTON: Darren Hall, of England, continued his winning run in the qualifying round of the World Cup championship in Jakarta yesterday. Hall overcame Fung Permadi, of Taiwan, 15-12, 4-15, 15-10. However, there were defeats for the doubles pairings of Chris Hunt and Simon Archer and Nick Ponting and Joanne Goode.

Rhinos charging on

RUGBY LEAGUE: Leeds Rhinos continued their rebuilding yesterday by signing Jamie Mathiou, the North Queensland Cowboys forward. The capture of Mathiou, who is 6ft 1in and 16½st, came 24 hours after the Headingley club announced the arrival of the Sheffield trio of Ryan Sheridan, Dean Lawford and Anthony Farrell.

MCC members must broaden their horizons, **Jack Bailey** says


An artist's impression of how the new elliptically-shaped structure will alter the Lord's skyline while providing optimum viewing facilities and resources for the media

Time for a leap of faith at Lord's

On Monday, the special general meeting of MCC, called to discuss and approve plans for the installation of a new media centre above and behind the Compton and Edrich stands at the Nursery End of Lord's, will *provide as stern a* test of the members' belief in the wisdom of the committee as there has been for some time. It is almost inevitable that this should be so.

The past decade has seen enough change to make even the likes of Kerry Packer rub their eyes. Not all of it has been to the obvious and immediate benefit of the members themselves and the latest venture will raise a number of reasonable doubts in the minds of the rank and file.

As owners of Lord's cricket ground they have already been asked to swallow some pretty rich fare: the building of the new Mound Stand, new offices for the English Cricket Board, the tearing down and replacement of the symbolic Grand Stand — financed, in part, by the sale of life memberships — and the steady mushrooming of hospitality areas, not to mention commercial advertising on the field of play.

Now the chef has wheeled in his *pièce de résistance*. The committee commend the media centre on the basis that it will complete the updating of facilities at Lord's by extending to the media "exemplary facilities, consistent with those which are already available, or will soon be, to everyone else at Lord's ground."

Another plank in the committee's argument, that "the provision of a new media centre at Lord's would put the club in an excellent and unrivalled position to hold the World Cup final in 1999 . . .", is doubtless true. It could be argued, however, that while *outdated and in a far* from ideal position, the present facilities could be augmented by temporary additions. If this were done, the chances of the 1999 final being staged other than at Lord's would still be remote in the extreme.

What is chiefly at issue here is whether Lord's cricket ground, as the flagship of world Test match venues, should provide the best media facilities available in the modern age, facilities that will cope with the galloping demands imposed, particularly by television and radio, upon which the game relies to bring itself before an instant audience of many millions. At the same time, the lot of equally important working journalists, both in the written and photographic senses, would be greatly improved.

In order to achieve this, the MCC committee is proposing "the first all-aluminium building in the world, with the skin of the building forming *an integral part of the structural* system."

It will provide clear and uninterrupted views of the pitch, with room for 250 broadcasters and journalists, and scope for much else besides. It is envisaged that the centre will be used for a number of other purposes in both winter and summer.

> 'The centre is proof of the exciting, cultural change on the face of Lord's'

The design, while futuristic, would do less to impair views of those wonderful Lord's trees than would a more traditional one and, when taken within the broad sweep of the new Mound and Grand stands, would not stick out like a sore thumb, as has been suggested. Already the project has been received favourably by the Royal Fine Arts Commission, the Westminster City Council planners and even the St John's Wood Society.

With the 1999 World Cup in mind, Roger Knight, the MCC secretary, says that agreement in principle has already been reached with the Eng*lish Cricket Board that, with the new* centre in place, Lord's would be the venue for the final and at least one other match.

Plans for financing this vast undertaking are already at an advanced stage. In return for the building *being known as the NatWest* Media Centre, the use of a couple of hospitality boxes and advertising at the Nursery End, NatWest will pay £2.6million during the life of a six-year sponsorship. They will also provide a loan on favourable terms from which construction costs can be met. It is confidently foreseen that specialised equipment will come at no cost to the club.

All this leaves MCC prepared to provide up to £1 million from its own resources — yet another contribution to the game it has nurtured over the 210 years of its existence. If all goes as expected, the call on reserves would, however, be minimal.

Almost without exception, the members of MCC have followed the advice of their committee and often they have been right to do so. Colin Ingleby-Mackenzie, the newly installed president, has no doubt of the worthiness of the project. "The NatWest Media Centre is proof of the *new, exciting, cultural change on the* face of Lord's cricket ground. It blends perfectly with the new Grand Stand and the Mound Stand, while the historic and traditional image of the ground is maintained by the pavilion," he said.

Certainly the odds are that in ten years, opponents of the futuristic design will wonder what all the fuss was about. Initially, the new Mound Stand had its critics; most are eager converts now.

All that is needed is a small leap of faith on the part of the membership. The knowledge that "who dares wins", and that this one final step will confirm Lord's as the centre of world cricket well into the foreseeable future, should be enough.

There is a bonus. The true cricketing media, who have been consulted at every stage, will be firmly on their side.

☐ *Jack Bailey was secretary of MCC and the International Cricket Conference from 1974-1987.*

India extend unbeaten run

By Our Sports Staff

INDIA extended their unbeaten home run in Test series and completed their first series triumph over South Africa with a 280-run victory on the final day of the third Test in Kanpur yesterday. India have not lost a series at home since their 1986-87 defeat by Pakistan.

Any lingering doubts about the outcome vanished when *South Africa, resuming on 127* for five in pursuit of 461, lost three early wickets, including both overnight batsmen, Brian McMillan and Dave Richardson, without addition to their scores.

Sunil Joshi, who finished with three for 66, had McMillan brilliantly caught by the substitute, Vangipurappu Laxman, for 18 off the fourth ball of the morning before Javagal Srinath trapped Richardson leg-before for five. Pat Symcox struck Anil Kumble for a six over mid-off but then gave Joshi a return catch after making 11.

Venkatesh Prasad bowled Fanie de Villiers for two and Srinath had Paul Adams caught by Mohammed Azharuddin in the slips for one to end the innings on 180, seven balls after lunch, and leave Lance Klusener on 34, an innings containing five fours.

Azharuddin, dismissed as captain earlier this year, was named man of the match and man of the series. His unbeaten 163 in the second innings here, his sixteenth century in 75 Tests, put the match out of South Africa's reach.

India now play a return three-Test series in South Africa during a seven-week tour that begins on December 19. Sachin Tendulkar, who has won three of the four Tests since taking over the captaincy from Azharuddin, *said:* "It's a great feeling to beat one of the best teams in the world. We now look forward to beating them in South Africa."

Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, attributed his team's poor performance in Kanpur to his batsmen's failings rather than tricks played by the pitch.

"Those who were willing to stay got runs," Cronje said. "*We have not got used to low*-bounce wickets and have not mastered the art of scoring big hundreds on turning wickets. Our batsmen like pitches where the ball comes on to the bat and our bowlers prefer wickets where the ball has more carry."

SCOREBOARD FROM KANPUR

INDIA: First innings 237 (S R Tendulkar 61, W V Raman 57; P R Adams 6-55). Second innings 400 for 7 dec (M Azharuddin 163 not out, R S Dravid 56).

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 177 (A Kumble 4-71)

Second Innings

A C Hudson c sub b Kumble	31
G Kirsten lbw b Srinath	7
H H Gibbs b Prasad	5
D J Cullinan run out	2
*W J Cronje c Tendulkar b Joshi	50
B M McMillan c sub b Joshi	18
†D J Richardson lbw b Srinath	5
L Klusener not out	34
P L Symcox c and b Joshi	11
P S de Villiers b Prasad	2
P R Adams c Azharuddin b Srinath	1
Extras (lb 14)	14
Total	180

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-26, 3-39, 4-97, 5-109, 6-127, 7-139, 8-167, 9-179

BOWLING: Srinath 19.1-5-38-3; Prasad 11-5-25-2; Kumble 24-11-27-1; Kapoor 13-8-10-0; Joshi 29-9-66-3.

Umpires: D R Shepherd (England) and S Venkataraghavan (India)

Gatting a guiding force

From a Special Correspondent in Brisbane

MIKE GATTING'S influence in guiding the precocious talent of Owais Shah has already been considerable as the batsman's England A coach and Middlesex captain. But if *Gatting succeeds in becoming* an England selector, he would be in the perfect position to ensure Shah's development continues unhindered by a restrictive youth policy.

Gatting was able to turn his *mind to these issues as he and* the rest of the A party suffered a frustrating third day of their tour match with Queensland here after overnight rain and bad light restricted play to 85 minutes.

Gatting: concerned

Queensland, resuming on *154 for four, 76 runs adrift of* the touring team's first-innings total, reached 195 for five at the close, with Glen Chapple, the Lancashire fast bowler, claiming the only wicket, that of Jerry Cassell.

Gatting has confirmed his willingness to join the selection panel alongside Graham Gooch, the favourite to become Raymond Illingworth's successor as chairman, and David Graveney, the A team manager, providing he can *successfully combine his playing* career with the position.

Should discussions with Gooch, his long-time friend, who finished as the leading English batsman last season in the dual role, provide *Gatting with the satisfactory* answers to his queries, he is sure to campaign on behalf of Shah, 18, to prevent him from taking a needless step backwards.

As the rules stand, Shah would be prevented from playing for Middlesex next season if he were selected for the England Under-19 side, as he surely would be after an impressive A tour to Australia.

"If they've made it a rule then so be it, but I'd like to think they might regard him as a special case to try to push his cricket forward," Gatting said. "Common sense says he would learn more from county cricket than going back to the under-19s."

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND A: First innings 230 (M A Butcher 72; B N Creevey 6 for 70)

QUEENSLAND: First Innings

T J Dixon c Vaughan b White	62
T J Barsby lbw b Ealham	29
J P Maher c Hegg b White	10
*S G Law c Chapple b Hollioake	19
M P Mott not out	29
J L Cassell c Hegg b Chapple	22
†W A Seccombe not out	10
Extras (lb 4, nb 10)	14
Total (5 wkts)	195

S A Prestwidge, B N Creevey, P W Jackson and S A Muller to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-81, 3-130, 4-132, 5-178.

BOWLING: Headley 9-1-30-0; Chapple 20-6-52-1; Ealham 5-2-16-1; Giles 9-3-25-0; White 14-4-31-2; Hollioake 8-5-20-1; Gallian 10-2-17-0.

Umpires: P D Parker and J F Torpey

SAILING

Dalton launches Whitbread bid

From Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent in Monte Carlo

GRANT DALTON, of New Zealand, who won the Maxi class in the last Whitbread Round the World Race, threw down the gauntlet for the 1997 race here yesterday, announc*ing a well-planned and* well-funded campaign. This time the Aucklander has the might of Merit Cup behind him and a budget thought to be about $9 million (£5.5 million).

This is the third consecutive *Whitbread campaign for Mer*it, a subsidiary of Philip Morris, and it is being run under the burgee of the Yacht Club de Monaco, where the launch took place. This came complete with satellite links to Auckland, where the syndicate's two boats are being built, and to Bruce Farr, in Annapolis, Maryland, who designed them.

Merit's first two campaigns were skippered by the experienced *Pierre Fehlmann*, of Switzerland. This time they have gone for Dalton, who will be competing in his fifth consecutive race but sailing for the first time on a Whitbread 60.

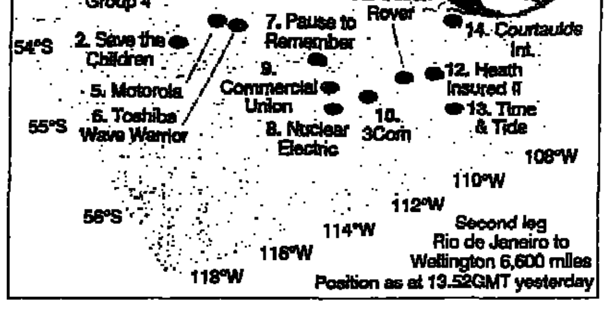
His crew includes Kevin Shoebridge, who is overseeing the building in Auckland, Mike Quilter, as navigator, and Guido Maisto, of Italy, who skippered the W60, *Brooksfield*, in the last race, *finishing sixth. Despite the* Monaco link and the promotional emphasis on Italy, the crew will be mainly from New Zealand and the early trials will be held there.

Dalton named Lawrie Smith, of Britain, who is expected finally to be able to announce his Silk Cut-spon*sored campaign on Monday*, and the partnership of Chris Dickson and Dennis Conner as two of his leading rivals.

Although he is well ahead of Smith on the construction and planning side, Dalton was *reluctant to rule him* or anyone else out. "It's too early to try to pick winners," he said. "The evenness of the design *rule means you* haven't got people who have already lost the race. In the past, at this stage, 12 of the 14 boats would have already lost."

Dalton, who is among nine clients of Farr's in the race, said he was very happy with the design and is keeping an open mind about which of the *two hulls will be chosen*. "It's going to be quite a tough call," he said, adding that intensive two-boat testing would start at the end of February to determine which would be chosen for the September race.

Dalton has a wealth of experience in this event but said that he had a lot to learn about W60s. The emphasis is on a solid campaign. "You lose the Whitbread by trying to be too clever," he said. "We are *trying to do everything one per* cent better than everyone else — not one thing 100 per cent better."



DISTANCE TO WELLINGTON: 1, Group 4 3,318; 2, Save The Children 3,327. 3, Global Teamwork 3,344; 4, Concert 3,357; 5, Motorola 3,365; 6, Toshiba Wave Warrior 3,370; 7, Pause To Remember 3,446; 8, Nuclear Electric 3,456; 9, Commercial Union 3,456; 10, 3Com 3,473; 11, Ocean Rover 3,508; 12, Health Insured II 3,529; 13, Time & Tide 3,539, 14, Courtaulds International 3,564

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RUGBY UNION

Stransky to provide options for Leicester

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

THE heady mixture of overseas players pouring into English rugby continued yesterday. Nine days after the announcement that Francois Pienaar is to join Saracens, Joel Stransky, the man whose dropped goal won the 1995 World Cup for Pienaar's South Africa team, confirmed that he is to join Leicester.

Stransky, 29, will become available for Leicester next month, pending the arrangement of a work permit, and could start his 2½-year contract against Northampton on January 11. Though Bob Dwyer, the Leicester director of rugby, suggested that he had first to win a place at stand-off half ahead of Rob Liley, harsh reality suggests that Stransky will be wheeled in as swiftly as possible.

Stransky: pivotal role

That Leicester should choose to unveil their new signing at the England team hotel may raise the eyebrows of the national team management, given that half of the 12 first division clubs (from whom, by and large, the national side is selected) will now field pivots who have no England qualification. Leicester will join Bristol (Paul Burke), Sale (Simon Mannix), London Irish (David Humphreys), Saracens (Michael Lynagh) and West Hartlepool (Mark Ring or Chris John) in that respect.

"The balance has to be right when it comes to signing players," Peter Wheeler, the Leicester chief executive, said. "We have to look at what Joel will do for us and how much the people around him will learn. We spend a lot of time and effort identifying and growing our own English-bred players, though the England management have legitimate concerns about the number of overseas players coming in."

This is the first significant overseas signing that Leicester have made, funded by a combination of sponsorship, subscriptions and gate receipts that is virtually unique to English club rugby. "It's difficult for Rob Liley," Dwyer said. "He will understand that he is still an important member of our first-team squad — and we have played a squad system right from the start of the season. Rob could be disillusioned to some degree, but you have to accept the situation and not allow it to affect your performance."

Coincidentally, Liley and Stransky have had spells at the Cahors clubs, in France, though Stransky's other northern-hemisphere experience — beyond national tours — extends to L'Aquila and San Dona, in Italy. He will bring with him the experience of 23 caps for South Africa, the last of them against New Zealand in August when the All Blacks won a series in South Africa for the first time.

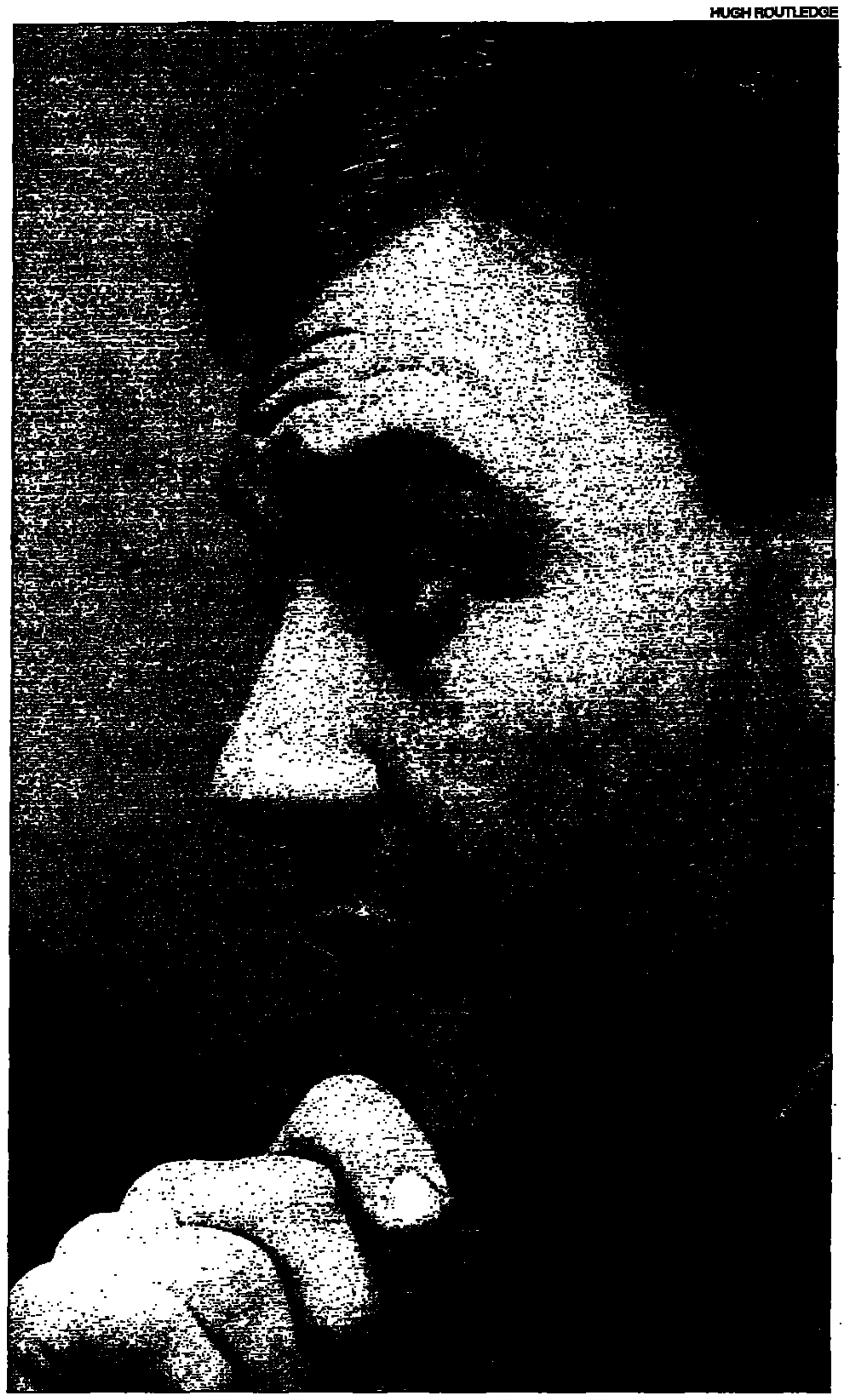
It was not, though, a happy season for Stransky after the tumultuous World Cup year. His form dipped, to the extent that he was dropped by Western Province, who preferred Louis Koen, the youngster touring with South Africa A. The need to prove himself in a new environment may draw forth the sustained quality that he displayed during the World Cup, in the final of which he scored all South Africa's points in their 15-12 win over New Zealand.

"There is only one way to go after winning a World Cup, and that's down," Stransky said. He has not given up hope of playing for South Africa again — there are 18 months of his South African Rugby Football Union contract to run — but his omission from the party which concludes, on Sunday against Wales, a tour that has taken in Argentina and France, suggests that he may not return to international rugby.

"The selectors in South Africa will pick from the Super 12 and Currie Cup performances," he said. "It will be difficult to influence that situation. The new coach [André Markgraaff] wants to do things his way, which is only right, and he has made his intentions known." Markgraaff perceives no international future for Pienaar and, though he has scored 240 points for South Africa — second only to Naas Botha — Stransky may well fall into the same category.

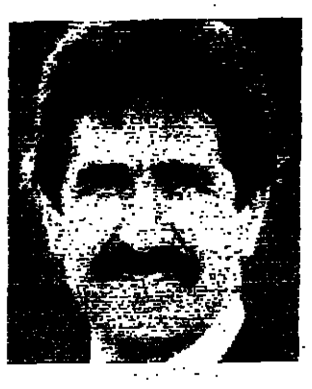
□ Nick Walshe, the Harlequins scrum half, replaces Matthew Dawson in the England A team to play Queensland at Gateshead tonight. Walshe went on as a replacement in England A's 22-17 victory against an Argentina XV on Tuesday when Dawson suffered a bad knee injury.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE


Jason Leonard in pensive mood yesterday after inheriting the England captaincy for the match against Argentina at Twickenham tomorrow

Official view must involve teamwork

GERALD DAVIES



Rugby Union Commentary

When Wales played Australia recently, Matthew Burke, the Australia full back, scored a try after 11 minutes which, when he added the conversion, gave his side a 10-3 lead. That this occurred so early in the game was a significant setback to Wales, who wanted, above all, to gather confidence and to make amends against the team that had beaten them so heavily last summer. Suddenly Wales had a hill to climb.

What made matters worse was that the try should never have been allowed. What the Wales players and almost the whole of the crowd had seen was that, immediately before the score, David Campese had knocked on the ball. Iain Ramage, the Scottish referee, had missed the incident — such are the travails of the solitary referee.

It is highly unlikely that a similar incident would have occurred last Saturday at Twickenham, where Ed Morrison was the referee when the Australians met the Barbarians. He was accompanied by two other officials from the Rugby Football Union, who acted as touch judges. It has become common practice for quite some time for three officials from the same union to take charge of an international match. They travel together and, since they know each other well, are more likely to function as a team. This was as true at Twickenham as at Cardiff Arms Park, but it would appear that the English officials are better attuned to modern rugby requirements and, to an extent, operate outside the laws of the game.

The referee remains the sole judge of fact and the only occasion, according to the laws, that touch judges can intervene is in the event of foul play. In recent years, though, there has grown an increasing understanding of co-operation between the three, so that touch judges do intervene to pass on messages and advice.

It is not so long ago that referees from Wales took the lead in extending the influence of the touch judges. In the event of uncertainty arising over a try being scored in the corner — for instance, a player failing to ground the ball — the touch judge might stand his ground near the touch flag to indicate that the try had not been scored; or he would run around to take his place behind the posts if he felt that it had. Thus the referee would be assisted in arriving at a decision.

Ken Rowlands, the Welsh Rugby Union's referee development officer, is firmly of the view that the laws of the game should accommodate touch judges in assisting the referee. Such a proposal has already gone to the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) for discussion at its meeting in January.

'We need to ensure that the correct decisions are made on the field'

On the clear evidence of the match between the Barbarians and Australians, English referees are functioning in this way already. On at least four occasions Stewart Piercy, the touch judge, indicated by moving his hand across his chest that a knock-on had taken place. As Morrison himself admitted, he missed one of these and was grateful to have his attention drawn to it.

"As the law stands," Morrison said, "this is exceeding the powers of the touch judge, but, to be realistic, no one man can keep an eye on everything, and now that the game is professional the pressure is becoming greater on the officials. The game is played at a faster pace and, because of the financial imperatives on players and clubs, we must ensure that the correct decisions are made on the field. Teams cannot be knocked out of the cup or an international match lost, say, because of a refereeing error. There is more at stake these days.

"We must do whatever we can to ease the burden on the referee. The three officials must be as proactive as possible. The players and the crowd have come to expect it."

He conceded, though, that there are difficulties. "Of course the referee must be the final arbiter," he said. "The touch judge should be in a position, however, to give advice; but it is up to the referee if he wishes to take it."

Furthermore, for the second year, officials in the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship are fitted with a two-way electronic link, which is proving very successful. The IRFB is awaiting the results of what still is an experiment.

"What we are finding so far," Morrison said, "is that, once players know that there are other pairs of eyes watching them, they are less inclined, for example, to wander offside. The possible intervention of touch judges is proving a wonderful deterrent to an aspect of play that can so often spoil a match.

"Let's face it, the referee cannot legislate for everything that is likely to turn up in a game. He may miss some foul play or a forward pass. In those circumstances, I cannot see why a touch judge cannot assist the referee. There is a better sense of fairness.

"In two international matches last year — New Zealand versus Australia and France against Ireland — this system was used. There had to be an agreement between the two teams involved. On the other hand, two other countries in the five nations' championship turned down our request. This is a pity because the players particularly liked it. They expect correct judgment.

"Some have suggested that, in the event of a doubtful decision, we should be provided with an action replay screen to refer to, but this would produce prolonged pauses that would take away the excitement and so hinder the sense of theatre that the game provides."

Mortgage rates for Bradford & Bingley borrowers.

Notice is given to all Bradford & Bingley Building Society variable rate borrowers, including Mortgages Direct borrowers, that the Interest Rate charged will be increased by 0.25%. This increase will take effect from 15 December 1996 for all variable rate borrowers apart from those mentioned in the next paragraph.

Borrowers who are entitled to written notice and borrowers whose mortgages are regulated under the terms of the Consumer Credit Act 1974, will be notified by individual letter, of when the rate increase will apply.

Under the Society's annual review scheme, borrowers will be advised of the new Monthly Mortgage Payment on the annual mortgage statement that is issued in January.

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BADMINTON

JAKARTA: World Cup: Men: Group A: D Hall (Eng) bt F Permadi (Taiwan) 15-12, 4-15, 15-10; Chen Gang (China) bt P Chen (Malaysia) 15-7, 15-5. Group B: J Rosobin (Indo) bt P-E Hoyer Larsen (Den) 14-17, 15-6, 15-5; Lee Kwan Jin (China) bt J van Dijk (Holl) 15-12, 15-8. Group C: Dong Jiong (China) bt S Nielsen (Den) 15-10, 15-13; A Budikusuma (Indo) bt O Pongratz (Ger) 15-8, 15-2. Group D: O Ewe Hock (Malaysia) bt J Olsson (Swe) 15-8, 15-13; P Sung Woo (S Kor) wo M L Hansen (Den). Women: Group A: L Joo Hyun (S Kor) bt A Sondergaard (Den) 11-6, 11-3. Group B: T Ida (Japan) bt C Gandrup (Swe) 11-9, 11-2. Group C: H Mizui (Japan) wo C Martin (Den). Group D: Gong Zhichao (China) bt P Plungwech (Thai) 11-3, 11-6.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leicester 66 Manchester 77

EUROPEAN CUP: Panathinaikos (Gr) 87 Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 79; Ljubljana (Slovenia) 81 Split (Cro) 53; Bologna (It) 54 Cibona Zagreb (Yug) 68.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 115 Toronto 113 (third OT); Charlotte 101 Denver 97; New Jersey 110 Seattle 101; Washington 106 Cleveland 95; Miami 84 Philadelphia 79; Chicago 103 Minnesota 86; Los Angeles Lakers 79 Indiana 76

BIATHLON

HOLMENKOLLEN, Norway: World Cup: Women's 7.5km event: 1, U Disl (Ger) 24min 49.1sec; 2, S Greiner-Petter-Memm (Ger) 25:11.2; 3, G Koukleva (Russ) 25:25.0; 4, O Zoubnlova (Ukr) 25:36.0; 5, H Mikkelsplass (Nor) 25:36.5. Overall standings (after five events): 1, Greiner-Petter-Memm 104pts; 2, P Behle (Ger) 96; 3, F Wallin 95; 4, S Paramygulna (Bela) 93; 5, O Melnik (Russ) 84. Men's 10km event: 1, V Maigourov (Russ) 25min 55.3sec; 2, F Andresen (Nor) 26:00.4; 3, S Fischer (Ger) 26:12.1; 4, L Gredler (Austria) 26:20.7; 5, O Einar Bjoerndalen (Nor) 26:22.5. Overall standings (after five events): 1, Fischer 106pts; 2, P Mousimov (Russ) 99; 3, Maigourov 82; 4, Andresen 70; 5, V Sashurin (Bela) 68

BOWLS

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP: East section: Coed Duon 68 Wyllie 79, Llynfi 57 Pontcanna 116; Oakfield 111 Uskmouth 51; Rhydycar 73 Bute 77; St Tydfil 84 Ystradlodwg 65; Taff Ely 85 Glynrhondda 70; Casnewydd 79 Colcot 83. West section: Afan 81 Llandarcy 90; Amman 64 Penybont 107; Cennen 82 Sospan 63; Jersey Marine 85 Stradey 84; Cwmch 148 Cleddau 48, Mumbles 97 St Florence 63; Stepney 96 Margam 57.

BOXING

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE: Light-heavyweight (8 rnds): Crawford Ashley (Leeds) bt Tony Booth (Hull) rsf 1st; Middleweight (10 rnds for southern area title): Howard Eastman (Battersea) bt Sven Hamer (Basingstoke) rsf 10th. Super-featherweight (12 rnds for Commonwealth title): Justin Juuko (Uganda) bt Gary Thornhill (Liverpool) rsf 8th; Flyweight (6 rnds): Mark Reynolds (Sudbury) drew with Anthony Hanna (Birmingham). Southern area super-featherweight title (10rnds): Matt Brown (Walworth) bt Marcus McCree (Brixton) rsf 9th. Light-welterweight (6rnds): Pat Larner (Bognor) bt Dave Brazil (Aldershot) pts. Super-bantamweight (6rnds): Frankie Leroy (Fr) bt Benny Jones (Birmingham) ko 5th.

CRICKET

SUPERSPORT SERIES: Durban (first day of four): Boland 133 (S M Pollock 4-22; G M Gilder 4-36), Natal 85-4.

FOOTBALL

SCHOOLS' MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Cheshire 1 Lancashire 0. English Knowles Cup: Cambridgeshire 0 Inner London 0.

ASIAN CUP: Japan 1 China 0; Syria 2 Uzbekistan 1 (both in Al-Ain). Quarter-final draw: Sunday: United Arab Emirates v Iraq (at Abu Dhabi); Japan v Kuwait (at Al-Ain). Monday: Korea v Iran (at Dubai); Saudi Arabia v China (at Abu Dhabi)

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Final, first leg: Portuguesa 2 Gremio 1.

Wednesday's late results

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunfermline 2 Hibernian 1; Hearts 1 Aberdeen 2; Motherwell 0 Raith 1. First division: East Fife 0 Greenock Morton 3; Airdie 3 Clydebank 1.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Morecambe 4 Gateshead 0.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland 1 Accrington Stanley 1. League cup: Fourth round: Boston 3 Hyde 2. President's cup: First-round replay: Blyth Spartans 2 Spennymoor 1

GILBERT LEAGUE: Cup: Second round, second leg: Caernarfon 2 Welshpool 2 (6-6 on agg; Caernarfon win on away goals); Inter Cable-Tel 3 Carmarthen Town 0 (Inter win 3-1 on agg); Ton Pentre 3 Briton Ferry 1 (Ton Pentre win 8-5 on agg).

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: First division: Carrick 1 Ballymena 2; Distillery 0 Ballyclare 3

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bolton 3 Tranmere 3. First division: Coventry 0 Leicester 2; Huddersfield 0 Middlesbrough 0; West Bromwich 0 Blackpool 0. Second division: Burnley 2 Wrexham 2; Hull 1 York 0; Rotherham 2 Manchester City 1

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Huntly 1 Peterhead 0

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Tranmere 2 Grimsby 0; Manchester City 2 Walsall 2; Leyton Orient 1 Bristol City 2; Southampton 1 Tottenham 3; Enfield 1 Gravesend and Northfleet 3. Second-round replay: Sheffield Utd 4 Bolton 5

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Tottenham Hotspur 2 Swansea 0; Portsmouth 2 Ipswich 1.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Cup: Second round: Corby 0 Raunds T 2; Evesham 0 Moor Green 3; Salisbury 3 Newport IoW 1; Sittingbourne 0 Baldock 2; St Leonards Stamcroft 3 Margate 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Leicestershire 1 Humberside 4; Middlesex 2 Sussex 5. FA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Leicestershire 1 Humberside 2; Nottinghamshire 2 Lincolnshire 1.

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Udinese 1 Juventus 4.

HASSAN TROPHY: Czech Republic 2 Nigeria 1; Croatia 2 Morocco 2 (Croatia win 7-6 on pens) (both in Casablanca)

FRENCH CUP: Second round: AS Monaco 3 Troyes 3 (Monaco won 4-2 on pens); Montpellier 2 Bastia 2 (Montpellier won 4-2 on pens); Le Mans 2 Epinal 0; Rennes 1 Le Havre 0; Niort 0 Lens 2; Nice 2 Caen 2 (Caen won 5-4 on pens); Nantes 2 Valence 1; Cannes 1 Nancy 0; Strasbourg 3 Saint Etienne 0; Bordeaux 3 Chateauroux 0; FC Metz 2 Lorient 0; Toulouse 2 Louhans-Cuiseaux 3; Toulon 2 Lille 1; Nimes 1 Guingamp 0

GOLF

BRISBANE: Coolum Classic: Leading first-round scores (Australia unless stated): 66: W Grady. 67: C Parry, D Bransdon, P Lonard, P Chapman. 69: B King, M Harwood, R Farley, S Bouvier, R Pampling. 70: C Jones, D Ecob, J Cooper, M Clayton, P Zider, S Robinson, C Warren, G Evans (GB), N Kerry, R Ball, R Swanson

HOCKEY

MADRAS: Champions' Trophy: Holland 4 Spain 0; Pakistan 4 Germany 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	4	3	1	0	9	2	10
India	4	2	1	1	8	4	7
Pakistan	4	2	1	1	10	8	7
Germany	4	2	0	2	8	8	6
Spain	4	0	2	2	3	10	2
Australia	4	0	1	3	5	11	1

ICE HOCKEY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Guildford 12 Peterborough 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Hartford 5 Florida 2; Buffalo 3 Montreal 2 (OT); New York Islanders 5 New York Rangers 3; Dallas 5 St Louis 5 (OT). Colorado 6 Vancouver 1, Pittsburgh 7 Anaheim 3; San Jose 3 Washington 2.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: England A 20 South Africa A 35 (at Gloucester).

CLUB MATCH: Cheltenham 45 RAF 12.

HART GILMORE FOUR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP: Greater Birmingham 21 Worcestershire and Herefordshire 30.

TIPP-EX COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Norfolk 52 Cambridgeshire 3, Suffolk 17 Essex 14

SKIING

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colorado: Nordic World Cup: K88 ski jump: 1, J Mantila (Fin) 194pts; 2, H Skard (Nor) 188.5; 3, B Engen Vik (Nor) 188.0; 4, K Ogiwari (Japan) 179.5; 5, K Hammer (Nor) 179.0. World Cup overall standings (after two events): 1, Mantila 225pts; 2, S Lajunen (Fin) 190; 3, K Tore Apeland (Nor) 180; 4, Skard 173; 5, Engen Vik 148. Nations Cup standings (after two events): 1, Norway 1,034pts; 2, Finland 582; 3, Austria 251; 4, United States 238; 5, France 201

VAL D'ISERE: World Cup: Super giant slalom: 1, H Gerg (Ger) 1min 7.81sec; 2, K Seizinger (Ger) 1:08.20; 3, I Kostner (It) 1:08.38; 4, R Gotschl (Austria) 1:08.44; 5, M Ertl (Ger) 1:08.57. Overall standings (after eight events): 1, Seizinger 484pts; 2, P Wiberg (Swe) 382; 3, Gerg 378; 4, Kostner 217; 5, Goetschl 196. Super-G standings (after three events): 1, Gerg 230pts; 2, Wiberg 209; 3, Seizinger 154; 4, W Zelenskaja (Russ) 132; 5, Kostner 125. Nations Cup standings (after eight events): 1, Austria 2,078pts; 2, Germany 1,396; 3, Switzerland 1,006; 4, Italy 978; 5, France 975

SNOOKER

OSNABRUCK: German Open: Tenth round: M Davis (Eng) bt M Clark (Eng) 5-1. Quarter-final: A Robidoux (Can) bt D Harold (Eng) 5-4

SWIMMING

ROSTOCK, Germany: European sprint and short-course championships: Men: 400 metres freestyle (six fastest qualify for final today): Heat one: 1, D Maganas (Gr) 3min 48.94sec; 2, M Kajak (Pol) 3:53.18; 3, K Ivar Lundemben (Nor) 3:56.38; 4, S Tomas (Cro) 3:56.96; 5, B Orsoni (Fr) 4:02.44. Heat two: 1, S Pohl (Ger) 3:50.91; 2, E Brombilla (It) 3:51.09; 3, I Koleda (Bela) 3:53.68; 4, D Zaborodny (Ukr) 3:57.97; 5, M Loutenegger (Switz) 4:02.81; 6, R Kristinsson (Ice) 4:08.35. Heat three: 1, T Lohfing (Ger) 3:51.82; 2, A Stepanov (Russ) 3:51.50; 3, I Stikko (Ukr) 3:51.83; 4, A Savickas (Lith) 3:55.70; 5, F Maun (Switz) 3:56.73; 6, S Haegnidson (Ice) 4:07.99

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

* denotes all-ticket

European under-21 championship
Qualifying group seven

Wales v Turkey
(at Ebbw Vale, 7.30)

Nationwide League
Second division

* Preston v Blackpool (7.45)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: First division: Great Harwood v Radcliffe (7.30).

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundalk v Home Farm (7.45).

RUGBY UNION

Tour match

England A v Queensland
(at Gateshead, 7.30)

Under-21 international match

Scotland v Italy
(at Inverleith, 2.0)

Anglo-Welsh Cup
Pool 1B

Llanelli v Sale (7.15)

CLUB MATCHES: Bedford v Leicester (7.30); Berry Hill v Lydney (7.0); Clifton v Bristol (7.30); Glasgow Southern v Hillhead/Jordanhill (7.30); Howe of Fife v Kirkcaldy (7.30); Jed-Forest v Gala (7.30); Kelso v Melrose (7.30); Northampton v Loughborough Students (7.30); Peebles v Hawick (7.30); Selkirk v Alnwick (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: Friends Provident Grand Slam tournament (Kirkham).

BASKETBALL: 7-UP Trophy: Chester v Sheffield (8.0).

SNOOKER

Robidoux makes light of errors

From Phil Yates in Osnabrück

ALAIN ROBIDOUX, already assured of entering 1997 as the highest-ranked overseas player on the professional circuit, continued to pile up points by reaching the semi-finals of the German Open here yesterday.

Robidoux, who occupies a career-best tenth place on the provisional world list, faces Mark Williams or John Higgins, the title-holder, for a place in the final on Sunday after a 5-4 victory over Dave Harold, of Stoke.

Harold began the day by driving a tank at the Army base which is playing host to the tournament. By the end of it he was looking for the quickest way to the airport and home after a glaring, pressure-induced mistake in the deciding frame.

Ironically, Harold had benefited from a pair of dreadful Robidoux errors earlier in the contest when he recovered from a 2-1 deficit to lead 3-2.

Harold fashioned a 95 break in the fourth frame, but only after Robidoux, 38-4 ahead, missed a straightforward red in prime scoring territory. In the next he jawed an equally simple ball, leading 65-0 and, assisted by an exceptional positional shot from blue to pink, Harold cleared with 74.

Instead of dropping his head, as on many occasions in the past, Robidoux stuck to his task and when Harold misjudged a long green in the eighth frame, the West Midlands-based French-Canadian cleared to pink to necessitate a decider.

Trailing 38-0, Harold sank a difficult red from distance in launching a break of potentially match-winning proportions but, on 25, he snatched on a pink to a middle pocket. This caused the intended pot to go astray and Robidoux put together a winning run of 38.

Robidoux has been a semi-finalist at a world-ranking tournament on only three previous occasions.

In the quarter-finals today, Nigel Bond will play Mark Davis, while Stephen Hendry takes on Ronnie O'Sullivan.

هكذا من الاصل

RACING: TRAINER'S REPUTATION ENHANCED BY EXPLOITS OF BARGAIN PURCHASE

Bowen builds on Stately Home

By Julian Muscat

JULIAN HERBERT

Yahmi, far side, delivers a telling challenge to Jack Tanner in the Bovis Crowngap Novices' Hurdle at Sandown yesterday

THE Bovis Crowngap Handicap Chase at Sandown yesterday offered more than a morsel for thought. As trainers of glamour horses continued to shun the prevailing fast ground, a gelding costing 900 guineas landed his eighth victory since July to hoist his seasonal earnings beyond £35,000.

At this rate, the connections of Stately Home will be contemplating one of their own. The five-year-old has a healthy appetite for competition or, more precisely, for grinding it into the turf. There was no let-up to his front-running gallop as he threw some spectacular leaps in the hands of Adrian Maguire. And all this from what most trainers would perceive as a relative youngster over fences.

Tony McCoy, the champion National Hunt jockey, was yesterday ruled out of the weekend's racing after being concussed in a fall from Iktasab in the West Hatch Novices' Hurdle at Taunton. In addition to having to forfeit his remaining five rides yesterday, McCoy must give up four mounts at Cheltenham today and his rides at Lingfield Park tomorrow.

Mind you, the stable of Peter Bowen is not geographically located to be influenced by contemporary thinking. Bowen, 38, operates out of Haverfordwest on the Pembrokeshire coast. It is a three-hour drive to Chepstow, his nearest racecourse, although the crow's route to Wexford in southern Ireland would be shorter still. This was his sixteenth winner from the *"eight or nine"* horses he has run this term.

"It is all down to hard work," he said. "People keep asking me when the horse will be having a break. There's no *break for me and there'll be no* break for him. There is no point. The horse is fresh, a difficult ride at home and he'll be going to Leicester soon after Christmas."

Bowen, whose first winner at Sandown this was, needs no introduction to point-to-point enthusiasts. He saddled more than 100 winners in three seasons before taking out a full licence 13 months ago. He won 23 points in two seasons with Brunico, a notoriously quirky customer under Rules before Bowen transformed the talented grey. It was no surprise to learn he is building new boxes to meet rising demand among local patrons.

David Nicholson, another not short of patrons, landed the first two races with horses brimful of promise. Hurricane Lamp raced with nonchalance throughout most of the EBF Novices' Hurdle. But he had to knuckle down to resist Nasone, *an equally promising* five-year-old who carried 10lb less.

Nicholson was quick to pick up the point. "Horses should not be burdened with a 10lb penalty for winning one race worth £2,500," he said. "In the end my horse carried it, but the owner wasn't keen to run." The winner, a half-brother to Martin's Lamp, will probably bypass the Cheltenham Festival in favour of tackling fences next season.

Potter's Bay, who beat his solitary rival, Triple Witching, in the Bovis Lelliott Novices' Chase over an extended 2½ miles, is now reaping the reward for at last consenting to settle. Potter's Bay has clearly absorbed the lesson: *his quicksilver jumping swept* him past Triple Witching at the tenth fence but Maguire never had to wrestle to maintain control of the partnership. If in similar mood come March, Potter's Bay has the Cathcart Chase on his agenda.

[illegible]

Nap: FAITHFUL HAND
(2.20 Doncaster)
Next best: Lochnagrain
(3.40 Cheltenham)

Maguire, who rode the first three winners, was entitled to expect a fourth when punters dispatched Jack Tanner the 4-1 on favourite for the grade two Bovis Crowngap Winter Novices' Hurdle. But Jack Tanner was bettered by Yahmi in a compelling duel from the second-last hurdle.

The winner carries the colours of Jim Old's long-standing patron, Wally Sturt, whose veteran stayer, Mole Board, collapsed and died on the gallops on Monday. Yahmi *may yet make into an adequate* replacement for Sturt's prized hurdler.

Old also suggested that Collier Bay, his Champion Hurdle winner, is almost sure *to miss the Bula Hurdle* at Cheltenham tomorrow because the ground is likely to be too firm.

Meanwhile Maguire, beset by influenza, completed his book of rides before indicating he might miss the action at Cheltenham today.

Fast going in favour of Glemot

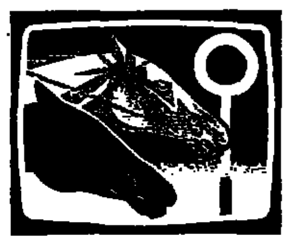
CHELTENHAM

CHANNEL 4

1.55: Forestal ran promisingly on his seasonal reappearance 20 days ago when looking short of peak fitness but would prefer more give in the ground. Another point against him is that he has disappointed three times here, although his front-running tactics could expose the stamina limitations of Chai-Yo, who may not appreciate a fast-run race over this stiff track.

Kippanour ran well here a year ago but probably needs further, which leaves **Sovereigns Parade** as a tentative choice. He beat Paddy's Return, the subsequent Triumph Hurdle winner, on his hurdling debut last term and shaped with a degree of promise on his seasonal reappearance in a tougher race at Ascot.

2.30: Yorkshire Gale, who won on his seasonal reappearance for the third year running here 17 days ago, then disappointed at Wetherby. He seems best when fresh. With Rainbow Castle, a faller at Taunton yesterday, an absentee, this looks a fine opportunity for **Glemot**, who jumped particularly well at Aintree last time when the ground was unsuitably soft. He should appreciate this sounder surface and can oblige.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.05: Daraydan disappointed at Chepstow last time after an impressive all-the-way victory at Leicester. Martin Pipe's runner may not have been suited by the soft ground but looks worth opposing under his penalty. **Carlito Brigante** did well to finish second to Resist The Force in a slowly run race at Ascot and, with a stronger pace likely, the former Flat handicapper can open his account over hurdles. Shadirwan almost certainly needs further while Beacon Flight's win at Huntingdon came in a slowly run race.

3.40: Lochnagrain has been a revelation since reverting to hurdles and must go well. He won a fast-run race with ease at Kelso 11 days ago and should be able to defy a 4lb penalty.

Balanak bounced back to form at Warwick 13 days ago but is unproven over this distance. Glengarrif Girl relishes staying races on fast ground and is the main danger, provided she is none the worse for being brought down at Chepstow last time.

Richard Evans

[illegible]

THUNDERER

12.15 Influence Pedler
12.45 WEE WINDY (nap)
1.20 Beatson
1.55 Forestal
2.30 Yorkshire Gale
3.05 Daraydan
3.40 Elburg

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
1.20 BEATSON.

[illegible]

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — *disqualified*). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

12.15 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER NOVICES HURDLE

(3-Y-O: £3,708: 2m 1f) (12 runners)

101 P0U ARROGANT HEIR 45 (D Brown) D Brown 11-0 .... Mr A Rebori 74
102 BENKAROSAM (J Chard) R Hollinshead 11-0 .... Gary Lyons —
103 5 BRANDON MAGIC 26 (BF) (R Michaelson) I Balding 11-0 .... — —
104 5 CLASSY CHEF 9 (K Sturgis) J White 11-0 .... T J Murphy 80
105 GET TOUGH 67F (M Marriage) E Wheeler 11-0 .... C Maude —
106 INFLUENCE PEDLER 44F (Miss S Blumberg) J Old 11-0 .... C Llewellyn —
107 MAZAMET 69F (F Clarke) O O'Neill 11-0 .... V Slattery —
108 8 NOBLE COLOURS 23 (S Griffiths) S Griffiths 11-0 .... Mr J Jukes —
109 26 PLEASURELAND 14 (Mrs S McCarde) R Curtis 11-0 .... D Morris [illegible]
110 5 SOCIETY MAGIC 7 (K Ayres) C Mann 11-0 .... R Dunwoody —
111 443 TOPAGLOW 9 (Mrs J Martin) P Dalton 11-0 .... N Williamson 86
112 DISALLOWED 60F (Million In Mind Partnership) Miss H Knight 10-9 .... M A Fitzgerald —

BETTING: 3-1 Disallowed, 5-1 Influence Pedler, Brandon Magic, 7-1 Society Magic, Pleasureland, 8-1 Classy Chief, 12-1 others.

1995: OUR KRIS 11-7 M A Fitzgerald (3-1 fav) N Henderson 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

CLASSY CHIEF 15½l 4th of 10 to Jelali in a juvenile hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, good). INFLUENCE PEDLER 6l 2nd of 6 to Go With The Wind in a handicap at Nottingham (2m, good to firm) on penultimate Flat start with TOPAGLOW (17lb worse off) 8¾l 5th. MAZAMET 2½l 3rd of 8 to Layik in a handicap at Leopardstown (1m 6f, good) on penultimate Flat start. PLEASURELAND 5l 2nd of 6 to Shooting Light in a juvenile hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good) on penultimate start. TOPAGLOW 5¾l 3rd of 10 to Priddy Fair in a juvenile hurdle at Catterick (2m, good). Previously 23¾l 4th of 7 to Noble Lord in a juvenile hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good) with BRANDON MAGIC 30l 5th. DISALLOWED neck and ¾l 3rd of 14 to Master Beveled in a rated stakes at Warwick (1m, good to firm) on penultimate Flat start.
Selection: PLEASURELAND

12.45 CHRIS COLEY RACING NOVICES CHASE

(£4,981: 3m 1f 110yd) (3 runners)

201 0P0-111 LORD OF THE WEST 2 (F,G,S) (Duchess of Westminster) J J O'Neill 7-11-8 .... A Maguire 92
202 23P-P22 FLIMSY TRUTH 17 (G) (M Weston) M Weston 10-11-4 .... Mr M Harris 81
203 1124-22 WEE WINDY 17 (BF,F,G,S) (W Gale) J Gifford 7-11-4 .... P Hide [illegible]

BETTING: 4-6 Lord Of The West, 6-4 Wee Windy, 12-1 Flimsy Truth.

1995: SEVEN TOWERS 6-11-8 P Niven (8-15 fav) Mrs M Reveley 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

LORD OF THE WEST beat Philip's Woody 3½l in a 5-runner handicap chase at Leicester (3m, good to firm). FLIMSY TRUTH 1l 2nd of 6 to Pongo Waring in a novices' handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). WEE WINDY 3½l 2nd of 14 to Mister Drum in a novice chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: WEE WINDY

1.20 CHUBB FIRE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,160: 2m 5f) (5 runners)

301 2315PF- LINDEN'S LOTTO 259 (F,G,S) (Crockett Racing Club) J White 7-12-0 .... Guy Lewis 98
302 24PUF/3- YEOMAN WARRIOR 408 (D,S) (Mrs H Alwen) R Rowe 9-10-10 .... L Aspell 90
303 5213-F1 BEATSON 3 (C,D,F,S) (Mrs E Gardner) R Buckler 7-10-9 (8ex) .... G Hogan [illegible]
304 523312- HALHAM TARN 228 (S) (H Manners) H Manners 6-10-0 .... A Dowling (5) 87
305 223411- BUYERS DREAM 16 (V,F,G) (B Chicken) B Ellison 6-10-0 .... G Cahill 90

Long handicap: Halham Tarn 9-12, Buyers Dream 9-8.

BETTING: 5-2 Beatson, 3-1 Yeoman Warrior, 7-2 Linden's Lotto, 4-1 Buyers Dream, 9-2 Halham Tarn.

1995: STRONG MEDICINE 9-11-8 T J Murphy (5-1) K Bailey 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

LINDEN'S LOTTO beat Lake of Loughrea 8l in a 3-runner novice chase at Aintree (2m 4f, good to firm), Nov 95. YEOMAN WARRIOR 15l 3rd of 7 to Galpa Vala in a handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good to firm). BEATSON beat Mr Matt 9l, in a 5-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (2m 5f, good to soft). HALHAM TARN 23l 2nd of 9 to King's Treasure in a hunter chase here (2m 110yd, good). BUYERS DREAM completed double, beat Willie Sparkle neck in a 14-runner handicap chase at Hexham (2m 4f 110yd, good).
Selection: HALHAM TARN

1.55 MARLBOROUGH TILES HANDICAP HURDLE

C4

(£3,469: 2m 1f) (4 runners)

401 021-112 CHAI-YO 14 (D,BF,G,S) (N Viney) J Old 6-11-10 .... G Upton 92
402 32333-0 KIPPANOUR 177 (G) (The Tuesday Syndicate) C Mann 4-11-6 .... R Dunwoody 93
403 146-0 SOVEREIGNS PARADE 21 (B,G) (R Tooth) N Henderson 4-11-4 .... M A Fitzgerald 91
404 14311-3 FORESTAL 20 (D,B,S) (S Griffiths) S Griffiths 4-10-13 .... Mr J Jukes [illegible]

BETTING: 4-6 Chai-Yo, 7-2 Forestal, 5-1 Sovereigns Parade, 6-1 Kippanour.

1995: CHERYL'S LAD 5-11-2 M A Fitzgerald (2-1 fav) N Henderson 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHAI-YO 9l 2nd to Mister Morose in handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good). KIPPANOUR 30l 7th to Nine O Three in handicap hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f, good to firm). Previously 8½l 3rd to All On in novice hurdle at Southwell (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm). SOVEREIGNS PARADE 28l 7th to Executive Design in handicap hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good). FORESTAL 9¾l 3rd to Tom Brodie in handicap hurdle at Aintree (2m, good).
Selection: CHAI-YO

2.30 WRAGGE & CO CHALLENGE

C4

(Handicap chase: £10,919: 3m 1f 110yd) (3 runners)

501 U401-14 YORKSHIRE GALE 6 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (B Naylor) J Gifford 10-11-10 .... N Williamson [illegible]
502 24-1223 GLEMOT 20 (F,G,S) (D Yardy) K Bailey 8-11-6 .... R Dunwoody 97
503 1333FF- RAINBOW CASTLE 1 (F,G) (J Hornall) P Nicholls 9-10-0 .... NON-RUNNER 86

Long handicap: Rainbow Castle 9-6.

BETTING: 4-6 Glemot, 11-10 Yorkshire Gale.

1995: YORKSHIRE GALE 9-10-0 A P McCoy (10-1) J Gifford 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

YORKSHIRE GALE 26l 4th of 9 to Island Chief in a handicap chase at Wetherby (3m 1f, good to soft). Previously beat Betty's Boy 21l in handicap chase here (3m 1f, good to firm). GLEMOT 11½l 3rd of 8 to Into The Red in a handicap chase at Aintree (3m 3f, good). Previously 10l 2nd of 9 to Coome Hill in handicap chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good).
Selection: GLEMOT

3.05 CHELTENHAM SPONSORSHIP CLUB NOVICES HURDLE

C4

(£3,810: 2m 1f) (9 runners)

601 002-12 BEACON FLIGHT 20 (G) (Hayfleet Pines) B De Haan 5-11-7 .... C Llewellyn 94
602 16 DARAYDAN 16 (S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 4-11-7 .... — [illegible]
603 APOLLONO 56F (Walgrove International Ltd) R Lee 4-11-3 .... R Johnson —
604 2 CARLITO BRIGANTE 20 (BF) (Lady Bamford) P Webber 4-11-3 .... M A Fitzgerald 96
605 32 DOCKLANDS COURIER 25 (Mrs L Olley) B McMahon 4-11-3 .... N Williamson 87
606 0 MR DARCY 22 (R Nicholls) P Webber 4-11-3 .... R Bellamy 75
607 F- SHADIRWAN 131F (C Ball) R Akehurst 5-11-3 .... A Maguire —
608 0 SUN OF SPRING 13 (Mrs P Sherwood) J White 6-11-3 .... T J Murphy 79
609 00060- AMAZON HEIGHTS 196 (S Gegg) L Grassick 4-10-12 .... G Hogan (3) —

BETTING: Evens Shadirwan, 7-2 Daraydan, 6-1 Carlito Brigante, 10-1 Beacon Flight, Sun Of Spring, 12-1 Docklands Courier, 16-1 others.

1995: ZEPHYRUS 5-11-7 J Osborne (9-2) O Sherwood 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

BEACON FLIGHT 7l 2nd of 3 to Lucia Forte in a novice hurdle at Aintree (2m 110yd, good). DARAYDAN beat Dana Point 15l in a 9-runner novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. APOLLONO about 31¼l 5th of 20 to Pasternak in a handicap at York (1m 2f 85yd, good) on penultimate Flat start. CARLITO BRIGANTE 7l 2nd of 9 to Resist The Force in a novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, good to firm). DOCKLANDS COURIER 2¾l 2nd of 8 to Ritto in a novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good to soft). MR DARCY 22l 7th of 15 to Hurricane Lamp in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good). SHADIRWAN behind when fell at last in a 17-runner novice hurdle won by Ashwell Boy at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). SUN OF SPRING 26l 7th of 15 to Ionio in a novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good).
Selection: DARAYDAN (nap)

3.40 GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE

C4

(Qualifier: £5,139: 3m 110yd) (10 runners)

1 U1U111- ERZADJAN 231F (D,F,G,S) (D Hall) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 .... G Cahill 90
2 000-351 BALANAK 13 (G,S) (W Dare) D Gandolfo 5-11-5 .... Sophie Mitchell (5) 95
3 12-1622 RUNAWAY PETE 10 (F,G) (J Smeaden) M Pipe 6-11-2 .... R Dunwoody 90
4 U6-4181 OLYMPIAN 20 (B,C,D,F,G) (J Neville) J Neville 9-11-2 .... N Williamson 92
5 2-3P111 LOCHNAGRAIN 11 (D,F,G,S) (Lightbody Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-1 (4ex) .... P Niven [illegible]
6 01416-3 ULURU 27 (D,F,G) (P Morgan) C Morlock 8-10-11 .... J R Kavanagh 91
7 3/PP-311 ELBURG 27 (D,G) (Mrs A Gamble) T George 6-10-6 .... M A Fitzgerald 94
8 1-21328 GLENGARRIF GIRL 16 (V,D,F) (D L'Estrange) M Pipe 6-10-1 .... — 91
9 P52-F4P SWING QUARTET 23 (G) (R Hartley) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-0 .... C Llewellyn 90
10 58-1321 MISTER BLAKE 26 (C,D,F,G) (W Edwards) R Lee 6-10-0 .... R Johnson 74

Long handicap: Swing Quartet 9-6, Mister Blake 8-13.

BETTING: 5-2 Lochnagrain, 4-1 Erzadjan, 9-2 Balanak, 6-1 Elburg, 8-1 Olympian, Runaway Pete, 10-1 Glengarrif Girl, 12-1 others.

1995: BETTER TIMES AHEAD 9-10-12 B Harding (100-30) G Richards 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

ERZADJAN beat Camelio 8l in 5-runner handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good). BALANAK beat Karshi 1¼l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 3f, good). RUNAWAY PETE 9l 2nd of 6 to Dorrappel in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 3f, good) on penultimate start. OLYMPIAN beat Ocean Hawk neck in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good to firm). LOCHNAGRAIN beat Trap Dancer 8l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good). ELBURG beat Aritomatic 6l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (3m 2f, good) with ULURU (10lb better off) 17l 3rd. GLENGARRIF GIRL 2½l 2nd of 4 to Victor Bravo in handicap hurdle here (3m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. MISTER BLAKE beat Queen's Award 3½l in 7-runner novices' handicap hurdle here (3m 2f, good).
Selection: ERZADJAN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
I Balding	5	20	25.0	N Williamson	22	88	25
K Bailey	19	87	21.8	A P McCoy	17	70	24.3
J Gifford	18	106	17.0	R Dunwoody	38	202	18.8
C Mann	3	18	16.7	A Maguire	25	167	15.0
D Gandolfo	3	18	16.7	C Llewellyn	13	115	11.3
N Twiston-Davies	31	208	14.9	P Hide	6	54	11.1

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

11.25 Master Of Passion. 11.55 Ertlon. 12.25 Myfontaine. 1.00 Zahid. 1.35 Merciless Cop. 2.10 General Equation. *2.45 Hallmark. 3.15 Sooty Tern.*

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST SIS

11.25 KERSTEN PROMOTIONS HANDICAP

(Div I: £2,534: 5f) (10 runners)

1 5080 SALLY SLADE 38 (D,G,S) C Cyzer 4-10-0 .... D Biggs 6
2 0004 MASTER OF PASSION 21 (C,D,S) J Eustace 7-9-11 .... D Sweeney (7) 10
3 4050 CHEEKY CHAPPY 14 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Chapman 5-9-6 .... A Culhane 9
4 0000 WINDRUSH BOY 8 (D,F,G) J Bosley 6-8-10 .... C Rutter 5
5 1020 ASHKERNAZY 79 (D,F) N Berry 5-8-10 .... N Adams 4
6 0066 BASHFUL BRAVE 28 (D,F) B Baugh 5-8-7 .... R Perham 7
7 0000 DISTANT DYNASTY 8 (B,CD,G,S) B Pearce 6-7-13 .... D O'Shea 2
8 0000 AVANT HUIT 10 (B) Mrs N Macauley 4-7-13 .... Jo Hunnam (7) 8
9 4535 MISS ARAGON 8 (F,G) Miss L Siddall 8-7-12 .... N Carlisle 1
10 -000 SHE'S A MADAM 18 (B) L Lloyd-James 5-7-10 .... J Quinn 3

3-1 Master Of Passion, 4-1 Bashful Brave, 6-1 Sally Slade, 10-1 others.

11.55 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP QUALIFIER

(Div I: £2,616: 1m) (12)

1 0130 TISSUE OF LIES 6 (CD,G) M Johnston 3-9-13 .... D McKeown 8
2 -066 JUBILEE SCHOLAR 170 K McAuliffe 3-9-13 .... M Tebbutt 5
3 0564 ERTLON 36 (CD,F,G) C Brittain 6-9-11 .... M Roberts 2
4 0000 DOUBLE MARCH 41 P Webber 3-9-8 .... R Perham 9
5 0534 BARBASON 8 (C,G) A Moore 4-8-13 .... Candy Morris 10
6 0365 MR ROUGH 8 (D,F) D Morris 5-8-11 .... S Sanders 1
7 0050 TIME FOR TEA 17 C Cyzer 3-8-9 .... A McGlone 3
8 0-00 ROYAL CARLTON 119 G L Moore 4-8-8 .... S Whitworth 11
9 3103 ZAHRAN 17 (CD,F,G) J Bradley 5-8-3 .... S Drowne 6
10 0000 PRESS AGAIN 8 P Hayward 4-8-2 .... C Rutter 4
11 0600 SHANGHAI LIL 90 (G) M Fetherston-Godley 4-7-12 .... F Norton 12
12 5506 PREMIER LEAGUE 31 (D,G,S) J Long 6-7-10 .... N Carlisle 7

11-4 Ertlon, 6-1 Jubilee Scholar, 7-1 Zahran, 8-1 Tissue Of Lies, 10-1 others.

12.25 COLD AS CHARITY HANDICAP

(£2,927: 1m 5f) (14)

1 0161 PERSIAN CONQUEST 17 (B,C,G) R Ingram 4-10-0 .... A McGlone 3
2 4402 GENERAL HAVEN 8 (C,G) T Naughton 3-9-10 .... F Lynch (3) 2
3 0204 MYFONTAINE 24 (D,F,G,S) K Ivory 9-9-5 .... C Scally 4
4 0025 ROWLANDSONS CHARM 17 (V,C,G) Miss B Sanders 3-8-13 .... S Sanders 5
5 0300 BRAVE SPY 200 (G) C Cyzer 5-8-13 .... S Drowne 13
6 5240 PHILMIST 84 (B,G) W Elsey 4-8-13 .... N Kennedy 7
7 0000 CLAQUE 14 (B,CD,G) D Chapman 4-8-12 .... A Culhane 1
8 5322 OUR MAIN MAN 14 (BF,F) R Whitaker 6-8-11 .... D McKeown 10
9 3612 BASOOD 17 (HB,C,BF,G) S Woods 3-8-8 .... D Biggs 8
10 0044 MUSTAHIDA 29 R Armstrong 3-8-6 .... M Roberts 6
11 3504 SUITOR 8 S Dow 3-8-2 .... A Daly (5) 11
12 0600 CONSIDERABLE CHARM 192 A Moore 4-8-2 .... Candy Morris 14
13 5102 NOTHING DOING 23J (G,S) W Musson 7-7-12 .... D O'Shea 9
14 0-00 ETOILE DU NORD 32 H Collingridge 4-7-10 .... J Quinn 12

9-2 Basood, 5-1 General Haven, 6-1 Persian Conquest, Myfontaine, 10-1 others.

1.00 APPLE A DAY APPRENTICE LIMITED STAKES

(£2,398: 1m 2f) (14)

1 06-0 CAN CAN CHARLIE 38 (G,S) J Pearce 6-8-10 .... F Lynch 9
2 0426 EASTLEIGH 17 (C,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-8-10 .... Lisa Watson (7) 1
3 2083 FATHER DAN 24 (CD,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 7-8-10 .... D Sweeney (5) 14
4 5600 KIROV PROTEGE 2 (G) Mrs L Jewell 4-8-10 .... D Williams (7) 5
5 00-8 KISSAVOS 31 (E,C,F,G) B Neelan 10-8-10 .... G Hannon (7) 13
6 0002 MANABAR 21 (G) M Polglase 4-8-10 .... G Faulkner (3) 10
7 0060 SHERAZ 10 (G) N Waller 4-8-10 .... Jo Hunnam (5) 3
8 3200 ZAHID 24 (CD,G) K Burke 5-8-10 .... R Painter (3) 8
9 6050 SHE SAID NO 36 (CD,G) A Moore 4-8-7 .... T Field (7) 7
10 6204 ABSOLUTELYSTUNNING 29 (D,F) Mrs B Waring 3-8-4 .... P P Murphy (3) 4
11 0000 BIANCA CAPPELLO 32 (B) P Felgate 3-8-4 .... D Wright 11
12 5006 COMMIT UP 24 J Hills 3-8-4 .... A McCarthy (7) 6
13 0040 NAWAJI 39 W Muir 3-8-4 .... J Wilkinson (5) 12
14 0000 QUEENS FANCY 77 S Dow 3-8-4 .... D Sall (7) 2

3-1 Father Dan, 4-1 Can Can Charlie, 6-1 Manabar, 8-1 Zahid, 10-1 others.

1.35 GIFT HORSE NURSERY HANDICAP

(2-Y-O: £2,996: 6f) (12)

1 2002 BOLD SPRING 2 R Hannon 9-7 .... R Perham 8
2 6565 TEAR WHITE 77 (B,F) T Mills 9-6 .... S Sanders 11
3 1100 EAGER TO PLEASE 52 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 9-5 .... B Ford (7) 4
4 0221 KILCULLEN LAD 17 (V,CD,F,G) P Mooney 9-3 .... D R McCabe 2
5 1435 HEAVENLY MISS 43 (D,F) J Bridger 9-1 .... M Roberts 10
6 1344 MERCILESS COP 25 (B,C,G) B Meehan 8-13 .... M Tebbutt 1
7 0223 THE WYANDOTTE INN 10 (BF) R Hollinshead 8-12 .... F Lynch (3) 9
8 480 HEVER GOLF MOVER 55 T Naughton 8-10 .... T Sprake 5
9 0052 THREEPLAY 10 J Akehurst 8-9 .... D Biggs 3
10 3123 SHARP RETURN 14 (D,S) M Ryan 8-7 .... M Baird (3) 6
11 6013 SERETSE'S NEPHEW 17 (CD,G) S Williams 8-5 .... D Wright 7
12 0000 LITTLE PROGRESS 53 T James 7-13 .... N Carlisle 12

9-2 Threeplay, 5-1 The Wyandotte Inn, Kilcullen Lad, 6-1 Bold Spring, 8-1 Eager To Please, Merciless Cop, Seretse's Nephew, 12-1 others.

2.10 KERSTEN PROMOTIONS HANDICAP

(Div II: £2,534: 5f) (10)

1 5102 KALAR 8 (B,CD,F,G) D Chapman 7-10-0 .... A Culhane 6
2 3213 NAPIER STAR 8 (V,D,G) Mrs N Macauley 3-9-11 .... C Teague (3) 9
3 0340 FEATHERSTONE LANE 8 (V,D,F,G) Miss L Siddall 5-9-10 .... D R McCabe 10
4 5080 MUSC 17 (C,F) L Montague Hall 3-9-5 .... M Roberts 1
5 0400 SILK COTTAGE 21 (V,D,G) R Whitaker 4-9-3 .... D McKeown 2
6 6000 DANCING JACK 2 (CD,G) J Bridger 3-9-2 .... S Sanders 3
7 3300 RENNYHOLME 21 (B,D,G) J Hetherton 5-9-1 .... N Adams 4
8 0000 GENERAL EQUATION 13 (D,G) J Balding 3-8-7 .... S Drowne 5
9 0000 SOTONIAN 65 (B) P Felgate 3-7-10 .... D Wright 7
10 0604 DAANIERA 182 (V,CD,G,S) P Howling 6-7-10 .... J Quinn 8

9-4 Kalar, 3-1 Napier Star, 4-1 Featherstone Lane, 8-1 Musc, 10-1 others.

2.45 ANY PORT MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES

(2-Y-O: £2,398: 7f) (8)

1 0260 HALLMARK 6 (BF) R Hannon 8-9 .... M Roberts 6
2 80 FORMIDABLE SPIRIT 8 M Heaton-Ellis 8-6 .... S Drowne 5
3 6 SUPREME MAIMOON 42 M Polglase 8-3 .... T G McLaughlin 1
4 000 HEVER GOLF LOVER 55 T Naughton 8-1 .... T Sprake 8
5 05 ROH DOWN 13 K McAuliffe 8-1 .... S Sanders 2
6 2500 DOZEN ROSES 72 (B) T Jones 7-12 .... N Carlisle 4
7 3052 ROYAL ROULETTE 10 (B) S Woods 7-12 .... C Rutter 7
8 30 SIDNEY THE KIDNEY 18 M Ryan 7-12 .... A McCarthy (7) 3

6-4 Royal Roulette, 3-1 Supreme Maimoon, Hallmark, 7-1 Dozen Roses, 9-1 others.

3.15 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP QUALIFIER

(Div II: £2,602: 1m) (11)

1 0-23 BAROSSA VALLEY 8 (G) P Butler 5-10-0 .... D Sweeney (7) 6
2 0602 SOAKING 28 (C,BF,G) P Burgoyne 6-9-10 .... D R McCabe 10
3 563- BRECON 403 W Muir 3-9-10 .... F Lynch (3) 9
4 0106 SEA DANZIG 44 (C,G) J Bridger 3-9-8 .... S Whitworth 5
5 0031 SHONTAINE 21 (F,G) M Johnston 3-9-5 .... K Sked (7) 11
6 0306 ERRANT 17 (CD,G) D Cosgrove 4-9-3 .... J Quinn 3
7 0042 SOOTY TERN 17 (CD,F,G,S) J Bradley 9-8-11 .... S Drowne 7
8 1243 HARLEQUIN WALK 17 (B,C,G) R O'Sullivan 5-8-8 .... S Sanders 8
9 6060 HATTA SUNSHINE 17 (CD,G) A Moore 6-8-6 .... Candy Morris 1
10 0-00 AJKUIT 45 J Sheehan 3-8-4 .... A Morris 4
11 -000 LITTLE PILGRIM 186 T James 3-7-13 .... N Carlisle 2

7-2 Soaking, 9-2 Barossa Valley, 5-1 Shontaine, 6-1 Sea Danzig, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: S Williams, 6 winners from 27 runners, 22.2%; L Montague Hall, 6 from 31, 19.4%; J Hills, 17 from 96, 17.7%; T Mills, 7 from 41, 17.1%; M Johnston, 40 from 237, 16.9%; R Armstrong, 10 from 59, 16.9%.

JOCKEYS: M Roberts, 12 winners from 44 rides, 27.3%; J Wilkinson, 5 from 19, 26.3%; C Scally, 5 from 25, 20.0%; A Culhane, 5 from 29, 17.2%; S Whitworth, 27 from 167, 16.2%; D McKeown, 20 from 129, 15.5%.

Blinkered first time

CHELTENHAM: 1.55 Sovereigns Parade. DONCASTER: 12.35 Ballykissangel, 2.20 Ragazzo.

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

12.05 Herbert Lodge. 12.35 Dispol Conqueror. 1.10 Berude Not To. 1.45 Callisoe Bay. 2.20 Past Master. 2.55 Zeredar. 3.30 Ardrom.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS

12.05 SAUCY KIT NOVICES HURDLE

(£2,847: 2m 4f) (9 runners)

1 -123 HERBERT LODGE 14 (BF,F,G) K Bailey 7-11-5 .... C O'Dwyer 90
2 212 INN AT THE TOP 10 (D,G) J Norton 4-11-5 .... W Fry [illegible]
3 45 CYPRESS AVENUE 10 Mrs V Ward 4-10-12 .... D Parker 87
4 0-P DOUGAL 7 B Rothwell 5-10-12 .... B Storey —
5 5-PP GUTTERIDGE 11 T Keddy 6-10-12 .... S McNeill 94
6 UF-3 HENRYS PORT 16 M Meade 6-10-12 .... J Railton 85
7 32-0 TWEEDSWOOD 30 (BF) P Beaumont 6-10-12 .... R Supple 90
8 -66P MESP 17 J O'Shea 5-10-7 .... Michael Brennan (5) 71
9 00 TOSHIBA HOUSE 47 B Ellison 5-10-7 .... B Harding —

6-4 Herbert Lodge, 4-1 Inn At The Top, Tweedswood, 8-1 Henrys Port, 12-1 Cypress Avenue, Dougal, Gutteridge, 16-1 others.

12.35 GLASGOW PADDOCKS SELLING HURDLE

(£2,229: 2m 110yd) (11)

1 BEGGER'S OPERA 48F Pat Mitchell 4-11-7 .... T Kent —
2 00- BOLD TOP 25F (V) B Rothwell 4-11-7 .... A Dobbin —
3 0 MUDLARK 27 J Norton 4-11-7 .... B Grattan (7) 80
4 -840 OAKBURY 14 Miss L Siddall 4-11-7 .... M Richards 74
5 TOULSTON LADY 18F J Wharton 4-11-2 .... Mr R Thornton (5) —
6 0P BALLYKISSANGEL 20 (B) N Bycroft 3-10-7 .... J Callaghan —
7 DISPOL CONQUEROR 163F P Calver 3-10-7 .... B Storey —
8 50 LAUGHING BUCCANEER 14 D Carey 3-10-7 .... B Fenton —
9 U ARCH ANGEL 25 G Charles-Jones 3-10-2 .... D Bridgwater —
10 00 SHANOORA 25 Mrs N Macauley 3-10-2 .... E Husband (3) 78
11 24P0 SONG FOR JESS 82 F Jordan 3-10-2 .... S Wynne [illegible]

5-1 Oakbury, 6-1 Song For Jess, Dispol Conqueror, 7-1 Bold Top, Toulston Lady, Begger's Opera, Shanoora, 12-1 others.

1.10 RED RUM NOVICES CHASE

(£3,756: 3m) (4)

1 22-1 BERUDE NOT TO 23 (D,F,G,S) O Sherwood 7-11-6 .... J Osborne [illegible]
2 12-23 ELITE GOVERNOR 41 (F,G) N Lampard 7-11-0 .... D Bridgwater 63
3 -C26 KEY TO MOYADE 11 M Wilkinson 6-11-0 .... I Lawrence 63
4 B0 SNOWDON LILY 6 P Webber 5-10-9 .... E Husband (3) —

1-4 Berude Not To, 6-1 Elite Governor, 8-1 Key To Moyade, 33-1 Snowdon Lily

1.45 VULRORY'S CLOWN CHASE

(Limited handicap: £4,526: 2m 3f 110yd) (4)

1 10/ CRYSTAL SPIRIT 615 (D,F,G,S) I Balding 9-11-7 .... G Bradley —
2 5-12 CALLISOE BAY 21 (C,F,G,S) O Sherwood 7-11-6 .... J Osborne 98
3 5502 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 6 (F,G,S) T Easterby 7-10-7 .... R Garritty [illegible]
4 FP/ IN TRUTH 617 (G,S) S Gollings 8-10-7 .... K Gaule —

4-6 Callisoe Bay, 11-4 Cumbrian Challenge, 6-1 Crystal Spirit, 6-1 In Truth

2.20 DOORKNOCKER CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,102: 2m 110yd) (7)

1 2211 CANARY FALCON 23 (D,F,S) R O'Sullivan 5-12-0 .... N Willmington (5) 95
2 3-F3 OUT ON A PROMISE 15 N Walker 4-11-13 .... D Finnegan (5) 93
3 4423 FAITHFUL HAND 9 Mrs S Smith 6-11-9 .... R Wilkinson (3) 95
4 5-0P PAST MASTER 41 S Gollings 8-11-7 .... K Gaule [illegible]
5 -233 TEEJAY'N'AITCH 41 J Goldie 4-11-3 .... G Lee 97
6 40-3 TIOTAO 35 C Parker 6-10-5 .... D Parker 94
7 0P-0 RAGAZZO 9 (V) J Wainwright 6-10-0 .... P Midgley 98

5-2 Faithful Hand, 7-2 Canary Falcon, 4-1 Out On A Promise, 6-1 Past Master, Tiotao, 7-1 Teejay'n'aitch, 14-1 Ragazzo.

2.55 DONCASTER RACECOURSE SPONSORSHIP CLUB HANDICAP CHASE

(£4,531: 2m 110yd) (4)

1 -1F1 FINE HARVEST 13 (D,F,G) J Spearing 10-11-10 .... D Bridgwater 90
2 1P11 ZEREDAR 8 (B,D,G) K Bailey 6-11-2 (6ex) .... C O'Dwyer [illegible]
3 P334 NEWHALL PRINCE 20 (V,D,F,G) A Streeter 8-10-12 .... T Eley 98
4 2-11 EASTERN MAGIC 37 (D,F,G) G Barnett 8-10-0 .... R Farrant 97

5-4 Fine Harvest, 7-4 Zeredar, 7-2 Eastern Magic, 12-1 Newhall Prince.

3.30 DONCASTER MARES ONLY STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,070: 2m 110yd) (11)

1 ARDROM P Webber 4-11-4 .... Mr P Scott —
2 CHIAPPELLI T Easterby 4-11-4 .... R Garritty —
3 2 COUNTRY ORCHID 37 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 .... C McCormack (7) —
4 U45 DERRING FLOSS 258P J Pickering 6-11-4 .... Miss J Wormall (7) —
5 5 FINE SPIRIT 16 N Lampard 4-11-4 .... T Dascombe (3) —
6 6-3 HURST FLYER 37 F Murtagh 4-11-4 .... A Dobbin —
7 PRIMITIVE LIGHT A Smith 6-11-4 .... P Midgley (3) —
8 3 RACHEL LOUISE 30 T Keddy 4-11-4 .... D Bridgwater —
9 0- RESTANDBEJOYFUL 293 Mrs S Lamyman 4-11-4 .... R Farrant —
10 0 SANTA BARBARA 10 C Grant 5-11-4 .... G Bradley —
11 620- TULLOW LADY 197 D Brennan 5-11-4 .... W Walsh (7) —

6-4 Country Orchid, 4-1 Tullow Lady, 6-1 Chiappelli, Rachel Louise, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 14 winners from 69 runners, 20.3%; O Sherwood, 6 from 36, 16.7%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: J Railton, 3 winners from 11 rides, 27.3%; G Bradley, 4 from 19, 21.1%. Only qualifiers.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Sandown Park

Going: good, good to firm in places

1.00 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, HURRICANE LAMP (A Maguire, 7-4 fav); 2, Nasone (P Hide, 9-4); 3, Friendship (M A Fitzgerald, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Neat Feat (5th), 16 Gale Wargame, 25 Calvaro, 33 Jazzman, 40 Loch Na Keal, 50 Award (4th), Black Statement, Rossell Island, 66 Physical Fun (6th). 12 ran. NR: Supreme Charm. Nk, 3l, hd, 13l, 7l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £1.30, £1.50. DF: £3.00. Trio: £1.60. CSF: £6.12.

1.35 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, POTTER'S BAY (A Maguire, 2-7 fav); 2, Triple Witching (M A Fitzgerald, 3-1). 2 ran. NR: Redeem-yourself. 1l. D Nicholson. Tote £1.20.

2.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, STATELY HOME (A Maguire, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, Strong Medicine (J Osborne, 9-4 jt-fav); 3, Bradbury Star (P Hide, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Easthorpe (4th), 9 Conti D'Estruval (5th). 5 ran. 12l, 1¾l, 1½l, 1¾l. P Bowen at Haverfordwest. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £1.90. DF: £2.90. CSF: £7.23.

2.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, YAHMI (J Osborne, 4-1); 2, Jack Tanner (A Maguire, 1-4 fav); 3, Eulogy (D O'Sullivan, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 25 River Room (5th), 33 Atavistic (pu), 100 Supermodel (4th). 6 ran. Hd, 5l, 2½l, dist. J Old at Wroughton. Tote: £4.00; £1.30, £1.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £5.27. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

3.10 (3m 5f 110yd ch) 1, INCHCAILLOCH (C Maude, 4-6 fav); 2, Church Law (A Maguire, 5-2); 3, Frozen Drop (S Fox, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 100 Woodlands Genhire (4th). 4 ran. 1¾l, 6l, dist. J King at Swindon. Tote: £1.70. DF: £1.60. CSF: £2.58.

3.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, FAR DAWN (C Maude, 5-2); 2, Fitzwilliam (J Osborne, 6-5 fav); 3, Baranov (D Gallagher, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 8 Whispering Dawn, 10 Soldier Mak (5th), 12 Go With The Wind (6th), 33 Spiral Flyer (4th), Veronica Franco, 66 Alarico, Hawanafa, Sam Rockett. 11 ran. 12l, nk, 16l, 6l, 5l. Mrs A Perrett at Pulborough. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £1.40, £3.00. DF: £3.10. Trio: £21.60. CSF: £5.82.

Jackpot: £251.20.

Placepot: £3.10. Quadpot: £2.80.

Fakenham

Going: good

12.50 (2m hdle) 1, PHARLY REEF (A Dobbin, 7-2); 2, Cosmic Star (J R Kavanagh, 40-1); 3, Elite Justice (K Gaule, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Lucy Tufty, 11-4 Royal Standard (5th), 7 Katballou, 8 Alosaili (6th), 14 Java Shrine, 25 Ruth's Gamble (4th), 66 Just A Beau. 10 ran. 3l, 1l, 2½l, 2l, 1¾l. D Burchell at Ebbw Vale. Tote: £3.70; £1.70, £6.50, £4.20. DF: £230.80. Trio: £178.20 (part won; pool of £175.76 carried forward to 3.40 Cheltenham today). CSF: £101.34. Tricast: £1,209.80.

1.20 (2m hdle) 1, LE TETEU (R Dunwoody, 6-4 fav); 2, Desert Mountain (C Llewellyn, 9-4); 3, Royal Action (J R Kavanagh, 11-4). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Poetry (6th), 10 Fijon, 12 Forest Boy (4th), 16 Magic Role, 20 Haute Cuisine (5th), 33 Bright Eclipse (pu). 9 ran. 2l, 10l, nk, 21l, 5l. Bob Jones at Newmarket. Tote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.80, £1.20. DF: £9.80. Trio: £3.80. CSF: £6.77.

1.55 (3m 110yd ch) 1, DONT TELL THE WIFE (J A McCarthy, 7-2); 2, Romany Creek (R Dunwoody, 3-1); 3, Pats Minstrel (A Dobbin, 8-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Speaker Weatherill (f), 16 Joker Jack (5th), 33 Good Old Chips (pu), 50 Victory Gate (4th). 7 ran. ½l, 5l, dist, ½l. C Egerton at Chaddleworth. Tote: £3.10; £1.40, £2.20. DF: £6.00. CSF: £14.49.

2.30 (2m 110yd ch) 1, THE LANCER (R Dunwoody, 6-4 fav); 2, Dr Rocket (C Llewellyn, 12-1); 3, Winspit (J R Kavanagh, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Circulation (f), 11-2 Holy Wanderer (4th), 8 National Flag, The Minister (6th), 33 Rustic Gent (pu), Sounds Golden (5th). 9 ran. 2½l, 2l, 1½l, 10l, 18l. D Gandolfo at Wantage. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £2.40, £3.30. DF: £7.20. Trio: £12.80. CSF: £20.88. Tricast: £74.55.

3.00 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, JASILU (C Llewellyn, 85-40); 2, Scamallach (R Dunwoody, 2-1 jt-fav); 3, Prize Match (R Bellamy, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 2-1 jt-fav Sophie May (4th), 33 Pennant Cottage (5th). 5 ran. NR: Mistress Rosie. 3l, 5l, 2½l, dist. K Bailey at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £4.20; £1.60, £1.30. DF: £3.30. CSF: £7.05.

3.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, BARFORD SOVEREIGN (A Dobbin, 4-1); 2, Pedaltothemetal (D Walsh, 13-2); 3, Wadada (J Prior, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 9-4 jt-fav Lookingforarainbow, Pair Of Jacks (6th), 13-2 Able Player (4th), 11 Durshan (5th), 16 Ajdar, 25 Nagobelia. 9 ran. NR: Shers Delight. 9l, 2l, 1¾l, nk, 16l. J Fanshawe at Newmarket. Tote: £5.70; £1.40, £2.40, £1.80. DF: £14.70. Trio: £28.10. CSF: £34.01. Tricast: £156.17.

Placepot: £59.70. Quadpot: £9.30.

Taunton

Going: good

1.10 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Yet Again (D Bridgwater, 11-4); 2, Lucia Forte (5-2 fav); 3, Easy Listening (8-1). 14 ran. 1½l, 4l. Miss G Kelleway. Tote: £3.00; £1.40, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £5.00. Trio: £28.30. CSF: £9.52.

1.45 (2m 3f 110yd hdle) 1, Harry (D J Burchell, Evens fav); 2, Sleepline (16-1); 3, Saracen Prince (4-1). 9 ran. NR: Tibbs Inn. 7l, 6l. D Burchell. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £3.10, £1.30. DF: £16.10. Trio: £14.90. CSF: £17.00.

2.20 (2m 3f ch) 1, Frontier Flight (E Husband, 16-1); 2, Brown Robber (16-1); 3, Cracking Prospect (11-1). Alter The Fox, Nordic Valley 7-2 jt-fav. 14 ran. ½l, 1l. Miss L Siddall. Tote: £17.60; £5.40, £4.50, £5.20. DF: £168.70. Trio: £694.20. CSF: £233.62. Tricast: £2,695.83.

2.50 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Rosie-B (Mr R Thornton, 7-4 fav); 2, Paddysway (11-4); 3, Lugs Brannigan (6-1). 8 ran. 1l, 5l. N Babbage. Tote: £3.50; £2.00, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £4.00. CSF: £7.17. Tricast: £21.53.

3.20 (3m ch) 1, Call Me River (I Lawrence, 15-8 fav); 2, Cool Character (12-1); 3, Paper Star (14-1). 8 ran. 2l, 2½l. P Hedger. Tote: £2.90; £1.50, £2.10, £2.90. DF: £16.00. CSF: £22.38. Tricast: £228.35.

3.50 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Out Ranking (R Hughes, 4-5 fav); 2, Lucky Eddie (6-1); 3, Fabulous Mtoto (4-1). 5 ran. 2½l, 8l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.50; £1.20, £1.90. DF: £3.30. CSF: £5.70.

Placepot: £255.30. Quadpot: £134.70.

Thornton's Haydock quest

ANDREW THORNTON is to ride Rough Quest, the Grand National winner, in the Tommy Whittle Chase at Haydock Park tomorrow. Mick Fitzgerald, the ten-year-old's regular partner, is on duty for Nicky Henderson at Cheltenham.

Terry Casey, the trainer of Rough Quest, is unconcerned that the jockey will be partnering his gelding for the first time. "Andrew hasn't been able to school the horse, but it shouldn't be a problem," he said.

"I couldn't be more pleased with Rough Quest, but he's going to need the run."

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[illegible]

Gazza gets stuck on the bottom line

LYNNE TRUSS

Kicking and Screaming

When Rangers were 2-1 down to Hibernian on Saturday, I started getting worried. This wasn't meant to happen. Those nice Hibernians in their green and white weren't supposed to beat Rangers, unless perhaps as a kind of rain-of-frogs portent for Armageddon. Yet they deserved to be winning. Hibs' excellent Darren Jackson was the man of the match; while Paul Gascoigne was looking fat and scant of breath. "Are the Gers just tired?" I asked the man on my left in the press box. "Perhaps their trip to Auxerre in mid-week has, you know, shagged them out a bit?"

Together we watched the exciting action on the pitch in thoughtful silence, both of us perhaps remembering that Gascoigne hadn't been to Auxerre; he'd been to the premiere of *101 Dalmatians* instead (bless him). Even if I was correct, of course, it was the wrong thing to say; nobody makes allowances in sport. Behind us, rabid Rangers supporters yelled non-stop in raw, unprintable language, to the effect "Come on chaps, move your bottoms." Finally, "Uh-huh," the man replied. But he did it in that non-committal Scottish way that can mean anything from "That's true," to "Well, shut up then, I'm watching."

It's an odd sensation being out of your depth in Scottish football, because you know that if you suddenly stood up and said "Oh, that's enough of that," Scottish football would only come up to your knees. "What's the point of the same teams all endlessly playing each other until the crack of doom?" is a question with heightened significance in a league of such titchy dimensions. Scottish football may be tired of the "small pond" label, but its premier division can't help but strike the outsider as tiny-weeny. The ten teams make such a short, cute list in print that you want to pat it on the head and buy it sweets.

But looking around at 48,000 dangerously worked-up Scots at Ibrox on Saturday, one had to accept that football still makes huge numbers of Protestant Glaswegians very happy. Which brings us to the other big problem — Rangers' relentless supremacy. Because even with the early setbacks on Saturday, Rangers were always destined to win the match, and the most pressing question north of the border is not whether the big fish will ever be found belly-up in the small pond, but whether it can maintain its Jaws impression for *nine years on the trot*.

Well, I don't know much about sport, but in terms of entertainment, the prospect of that is rubbish. Rangers should obviously stand down, or something. They should offer to tie Andy Goram's feet to a goalpost with elastic. All this winning can't be good for anybody. Leaving aside the effect on the players' egos (which doesn't bear thinking about), Rangers ought surely to consider the effect on dramatic suspense. Being a fan of Scottish football must be like watching those awful TV60 awards every week of your life. "Yes, and the winner is (again) . . . Morecambe and Wise!"

Ostensibly, I was at Ibrox to watch Gascoigne, but I kept forgetting about him because he was rarely in the thick of things. He set up one goal brilliantly for McCoist, but on the whole played with more commitment on Tuesday night against Dundee United (a match Rangers lost, fittingly, by scoring a goal for the other side). On Saturday, Gazza refused to dazzle, presumably because he didn't feel like it. Whenever he lost the ball he momentarily quit playing. Perhaps things were not happy at home. Or perhaps, after the excitement of *101 Dalmatians*, real life was too cruel a let-down.

Either way, I have only just come to realise that the saving grace for footballers is that every Saturday they have to run around in shorts and be shouted at. And while it doesn't make them humble, it surely offers a corrective to the insane world of suits and hair gel and white stretch limousines. For the mixed-up Gazza, I have no doubt the 90-minute interludes on the pitch are the only bits of his life that make any sense to him. No wonder he runs the gamut of emotions when he's out there; it's the only time he knows who he is.

The big infuriating Gazza emotion, of course, is *ennui*. "Don't act bored, you're playing a football match, move your bottom!" is what you want to tell him. But he just trots along on those funny thin legs, his square face a blank, his centre of gravity high up, somewhere inside his rib-cage. I noticed this capacity for ill-timed trances in Euro 96. Despite desperate urgings, he just won't move his bottom unless it suddenly occurs to him to do so.

He ambled through some matches in Euro 96 like an amnesiac, taking free kicks as though they were beneath his notice, foozling corners without apology. But then, of course, he would wake from his sleep ("Where am I?") and transport his bottom with great effect. Rangers are the perfect side for him, since they win anyway. Presumably he can be a rock in one game, flashes of lightning in another, chewing-gum in a third. Brian Laudrup and Ally McCoist will play on; the strength of purpose doesn't change.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, amid the noise and passion, the man in the press box indicated another blond in blue, Erik Bo Andersen. "See that man?" he said, nudging me. I nodded excitedly. At last, a secret of Scottish football! "Really a heating engineer," he confided. "Not many people know that. Can't play football at all, just a mix-up." Andersen promptly made the worst unforced error I have ever seen — standing a few yards in front of an open goal, he knocked the ball wide. "I see what you mean," I said, wide-eyed. "But he's a very good plumber," he said.

IAN STEWART

Gascoigne, in a rare moment of animation during one of his quieter afternoons, uses his strength to protect the ball from the attentions of Dow

RADIO CHOICE

Mountain or molehill?

United States of Anger. *Radio 4, 9.45am.*

Gavin Esler, the BBC's man in North America, is not normally guilty of making mountains out of molehills, but I can't help feeling he has constructed something of a hillock this morning. In New Hampshire, after chatting with two voters — there are 800,000 in the state — he asserts that the American dream is dead or on it last legs. His evidence? One breadwinner has lost his job and can't get another. Then a wife tells him she lost her faith in Bill Clinton when he changed from being anti-abortion to pro-abortion. However, Esler produces some better-founded evidence of national disillusionment when he lists some political jesters in America's theatre of the absurd. They include the man who had hoped to move into the White House when the present tenant was forced to move out.

Musical Encounters. *Radio 3, 10.00am.*

The golden thread that has linked this week's editions of *Musical Encounters* is the voice of Cecilia Bartoli, the Italian mezzo. She is one of the wonders of the age. You can hear her this morning, round about 10.55, singing Haydn's cantata *Arianna a Naxos*. It has been said of Bartoli that her singing is a self-portrait in sound. This implies that, personally, she is the quintessence of joy, and when you hear her sing Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate* or practically anything from her considerable Rossini repertoire — she is a Rossini singer *par excellence* — it is impossible not to believe it.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

7.00am Chris Evans **9.00** **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, includes at **12.30pm-12.45** Newsbeat and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, includes at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat and at **6.30** The Continuous Dance Mix **7.00** Essential Selection, with Pete Tong **10.00** One In the Jungle **12.00** Radio 1 Rap Show **3.00am** Annie Nightingale **5.00** Charlie

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Wowfabgroovy: New quiz series with Johnnie Walker **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night. From the Hippodrome in Golders Green. Robin Boyle introduces the BBC Concert Orchestra **8.45** Jamaica Inn (7/10) **9.00** Listen to the Band **10.00** Sheridan Morley **12.05am** Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.05pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, with David McNeil, incl Sports Bulletin **7.35** Parkinson on Sport **8.30** Friday Sport, with Robin Bailey **10.05** Paper Talk, with Jay Rayner and Brian Alexander **11.00** Night Extra, with David McNeil includes at **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Anna Raeburn **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** Mike Allen **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. News on the hour **5.30am** Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** Off the Shelf **7.30** Heritage **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Music Review **8.45** Record Progress **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Focus on Faith **9.45** Sport **10.30** BBC English **10.45** Off the Shelf **11.30** Meridian Books **12.05pm** Business **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Science in Action **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Multitrack **3.05** Sport **3.15** Record Progress **3.30** Music Review **4.15** World Today **4.30** BBC English **4.45** Britain Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sport **6.30** Focus on Faith **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Words of Faith **7.30** Multitrack **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** People and Politics **10.30** World Today **10.45** Sport **11.10** Spotlight **11.15** Insider's Guide **11.25** Book Choice **11.30** Multitrack **12.30am** Seven Days **12.45** Britain Today **1.30** Outlook **1.55** Words of Faith **2.30** Science in Action **3.15** Sport **3.30** Meridian **4.30** Jazz Now and Then **4.45** Seven Days

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto F.J. Haydn (Double Horn Concerto in E flat major) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. Rossini (String Sonata No 6 in D major)**7.00** Showcase **8.00** Concert. Mendelssohn (Hebrides Overture Op 26, Fingal's Cave); Strauss (Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche); Mozart (Flute and Harp Concerto in C, K229); Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E minor, Op 98) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience **10.00** Graham Dene **1.00pm** Jeremy Clark **4.00** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyle (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Alan Freeman **12.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Elgar (Enigma Variations); Tchaikovsky (Waltz and Polonaise); Building a Library; Hummel (Rondeau Brillant in G, Op 126); Veracini (Overture No 6 in B flat); Gottschalk (Minuit a Seville; Le deuxieme banjo); Boccherini (String Quartet in G)
8.50 An Advent Calendar
9.00 Morning Collection. Cherubini (Overture: Anacreon); Dvořák (Silent Woods); Janacek (Mladi); Rachmaninov (Suite No 2)
10.00 Musical Encounters. See Choice
12.00 Composer of the Week: Robert Simpson
1.00 News; Bristol Lunchtime Concerts. Continuing the series of concerts from St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Anya Alexeev, piano. Haydn (Piano Sonata in G, H XVI 6); Ravel (Menuet sur le Nom d'Haydn); Schubert (Piano Sonata in C minor, D958)
2.00 Preoccupations. A series in which leading musicians talk about matters close to their heart. Today, conductor Nicholas McGegan describes his magical garden in Berkeley, California
2.05 Monteverdi. Su pastorelli vazzosi; Zefiro torna. Guy de Mey and Martin Klietmann, tenors, Jozsef Gregor, bass, Capela Savaria under Nichola McGegan
2.15 Music Restored. Chris de Souza introduces the last of four programmes recorded at the Royal Academy of Music, London, to mark the 450th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther (r)
3.00 Mining the Archive. Bernard Keeffe explores the life of the composer and conductor Berthold Goldschmidt
5.00 The Music Machine. Tommy Pearson talks to Daniel Barenboim, music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
5.15 In Tune. Sessions (Suite: The Black Maskers); Alessandro Scarlatti (Christmas Cantata: O di Betlemme Altera Poverta); Martinu (The Tale of Puss in Boots)
1.30 BBC National Orchestra of Wales. The composer James MacMillan conducts his Veni, veni Emmanuel with percussionist Evelyn Glennie, for whom it was written **8.00** An Advent Anthology. A seasonal selection of classic favourites and recently published poetry **8.30** Concert, part two. With Ian Bostridge, tenor, the BBC National Chorus of Wales and the Birmingham Symphony Youth Chorus, under Simon Halsey. Britten (St Nicolas)
8.40 Present Tense: The Enduring World of the Innu, with James Wilson (5/5)
10.00 Hear and Now. Stephen Pratt introduces the last edition from this year's Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival. Includes the British premiere of Stockhausen's Libra, a theatre piece for bass clarinet and electronics and the world premiere of Gerald Barry's Piano Quartet No 2
12.00 Composer of the Week: Lully (r)
1.00am Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55 Shipping (LW) 6.00 News Briefing incl Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs. Fertility specialist Professor Robert Winston (r)
9.45 United States of Anger. See Choice (2/6)
10.00 News; In the Grip of the Glossies (FM). The last of the programmes paying homage to women's magazines, with Liz Lochhead (4/4)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 The Natural History Programme
12.00pm News: You and Yours. Mark Whittaker presents reports on consumer and social affairs
12.25 The Food Programme. Food intolerances and allergies — are they on the increase? **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; Classic Serial: Cyrano de Bergerac. Edmond Rostand's classic play, translated by Anthony Burgess. With Alex Norton, Emma Fielding and Jonathan Cullen (1/2) (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlow investigates the ancient art of colouring of sculpture
4.45 Short Story: Goodbye Africa, by Ngugi Wa Thiong'o. Read by Jack Klaff
5.00 PM with Charlie Lee-Potter and Chris Lowe **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'clock News
6.30 Going Places. David Stafford with more ideas for enjoying a great British weekend
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week. Chris Serle presents his selection of extracts from BBC radio and television over the past seven days
8.05 Any Questions? Discussion from South Woodham Ferrers, Essex, with Sir David Naish; Helena Kennedy, QC; Professor Colin Blakemore; and Julie Cleverdon. Nick Clarke is in the chair
8.50 Law in Action. Marcel Berlins presents the last in the current series
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: Supporting Role. David Owen Norris takes a look at the accompanist's eye view of the music world (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Pursuit. Tom Sharpe's comic novel. Read by Willie Rushton (5/10)
11.00 Week Ending. The topical comedy sketch show, starring Sally Grace, Meera Syal and Dave Lamb
11.25 Fourth Column. A quizzical look at life
11.45 Today in Parliament
12.00am News incl **12.27** Weather
12.30 The Late Book: Milk and Potatoes, by John Tunney (r)
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *38*

UMBLES
(c) The entrails and guts of an animal, especially those of a deer, but extended to cover any entrails that are typically consumed as food, such as kidneys, liver and sweetbreads. Every schoolchild knows this to be the origin of the expression "to eat humble pie", this being the food reserved at the lowest end of the table away from the roast. *Wambles* are often the result of eating *umbles*.

HAPTODYSPHORIA
(b) The shudderingly unpleasant feeling experienced by some people when they touch certain surfaces, such as suede, or silk or snakeskin.

FORMICATE
(b) To swarm like Ants. *Formica* is the Latin for an ant. "Headmaster, I thought you ought to know. Classes II, III and Remove are formicating all over the quadrangle."

RESIPISCENCE
(c) Recognising the error (or errors) of one's ways, seeing reason once again. Repentance and possibly even remorse. An uncommon human sentiment. "I assure you that we are all looking forward to your eventual resipiscence. Colin."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nh5+! gxf5 2 Nxf5+ Kf6 3 Qxh6+ Kxf5 4 g4 checkmate

FOOTBALL: FIRST DIVISION CLUB PROMISES HIGH RETURN TO INVESTORS

Birmingham ready to share

By Our Sports Staff

THE FA Carling Premiership is where the big money is to be found in football and would-be investors in Birmingham City were promised yesterday that they would share in the windfall if the club were to be promoted to the game's highest, and richest, league.

Announcing plans to launch a £5 million share issue on the Alternative Investment Market, with the money generated to be used to buy new players and redevelop the St Andrews stadium, Birmingham said that investors would double their money in three months if the Nationwide League first division club won promotion.

Although the club's co-owners, David Sullivan and the brothers, Ralph and David Gold, have already pumped £8 million into City, they will continue to back the club alongside the new scheme.

David Gold said yesterday: "This is a golden opportunity. If you invest today in Manchester United, you would get relatively small growth because they are up there and have done it all. Equally, if you invest in a small club, there is no real future. Birmingham City is one of those rare club-businesses which is on the brink of exploding. If people buy shares today, then by getting into the Premier League they will double their money."

Southampton have won approval to build a £35 million, 25,000-capacity all-seat stadium on the outskirts of the city. Hampshire County Council has granted the FA Carling Premiership club a 125-year lease on a 73-acre site at Stoneham, near the M27 motorway. The club is hoping to play its first match in the new stadium before 2000.

Hartson tempers approach

By Russell Kempson

JOHN HARTSON, the Wales striker, has played a leading role in Arsenal's rise to the top of the FA Carling Premiership this season, yet he freely admits he has got to clean up his act on the disciplinary front if he is to continue his impressive progress.

Hartson, 21, has collected nine bookings this season, one in a pre-season match and eight in his first 13 league and cup games. A three-match suspension followed. He was also substituted by Bobby Gould, the Wales manager, during the 7-1 defeat against Holland in Eindhoven last month after an off-the-ball incident involving Phillip Cocu, the Dutch forward.

However, after a heart-to-heart chat with Tony Adams, the Arsenal captain, Hartson is now channelling his aggression in a more acceptable form. He has made six appearances without a caution since he spoke with Adams and will need to show similar restraint when Wales play Turkey in a World Cup qualifying match at the National Stadium in Cardiff tomorrow.

"The incident in Holland was pure frustration," Hartson said yesterday. "We were 5-1 down and I just lashed out. I was trying to show a bit of passion and it came out the wrong way: obviously, I regret it now."

Vinnie Jones, another often tempestuous character, captained Wales for the first time in Eindhoven but will revert to vice-captain tomorrow with the return of Barry Horne from injury. "It's one of the most important games I've been involved in," he said. "We've simply got to win."

Jones is equally concerned about his future at Wimbledon. His contract expires at the end of the season and negotiations with Sam Hammam, the Wimbledon owner, have not gone according to plan. "Sam's got this pay-as-you-play scenario, but I don't want that," Jones said.

Ruddles County Riddles.
No. 13. Pub Challenge.

For Peter Barnsworthy it was a dream come true. He had won the 1996 Hertfordshire Pub Quiz Championship after six gruelling rounds.

But his victory was by no means final. He had yet to claim the prize.

He was placed in the bar of the Queen's Head Pub in Westcott. There were two doors, each leading to different rooms. Behind one of the doors, lay the prize, a voucher for unlimited access to the love of his life - Ruddles County.

The challenge was set. He did not know behind which door (they were marked 1 and 2) lay which prize. Beside each door stood a barman to help him decide which door to choose. However, the catch was that one of the barmen had been instructed to lie, but Peter did not know which.

Peter stepped forward, asked one of the men a question, and upon hearing his answer confidently strode through door 1 to claim his voucher.

Peter is of course too busy to tell us how he worked out which door to choose. Do you know how he worked it out?

هكذا من الاصل

Steamed, spit-roasted and finally soused

Matthew Bond

Whether the Turkish bath has become a compulsory subject yet at British film schools, I'm not sure. But if it hasn't, it should. It's virtually *impossible to make* a *make* a bad documentary about communal bathing, which must be encouraging if you're at the beginning of a career behind the camera. On the other hand, it's virtually impossible to make an original film about *the subject: a suitable cinematic* challenge for the ambitious.

With scarcely a week going by without somebody ringing to say "we've got this stunning film set in a municipal bathhouse..." I've become something of a an expert in the genre. Basically there are two sorts — if its men's night, it will be lots of stark naked chaps explaining why there is absolutely nothing strange about slapping a stranger with a huge bit of disgusting looking sponge. And if it's the women's turn... you get last night's **Women at Play: Turkish Delight** (Channel 4) — lots of artfully draped white towels (they're not silly) and lots of chat about how nice it is to get away from husbands, boyfriends, children and jobs.

Noemie Mendelle's effort may have scored modestly on the originality front, but it was sufficiently beautiful for all involved to take encouragement from the project. Ten out of ten, then, for artistic impression.

But scoring any points for originality at all is an achievement when its comes to the soggy-fly-on-the-tiling documentary — and Mendelle scored some. True, she *may have been pushing it a little* by using speeded-up film to suggest that leafy Harrogate was the epicentre of urban stress, but those of us who live in more seriously metropolitan areas appreciated the effort.

A clever *mix of soft-focus and steam protected her subjects' modesty*, while playful editing teasingly promised more but rarely delivered. Goodness, we chaps are easily led. One sequence in particular stuck in the memory. Through a double protective layer *of misted-up glass and clouds of* steam, the camera tracked the length of something the trained eye would just about recognise as female and naked. But, at the very *second the focus hardened to put* the matter beyond doubt, the magazine that was previously being read was placed over an area of more strategic importance.

For those who know their *Oxford folklore*, it's a manoeuvre once executed — in reverse — by Maurice Bowra when caught off-guard at Parsons Pleasure, the university's infamous nude bathing spot. "I don't know how people recognise you old chap..." For those who don't, it was a wonderful bit of choreography, in keeping with the rest of this prettily executed film.

Having relaxed us, Channel 4 *then set out to feed us with* **TV Dinners**. An evening of complete indulgence stretched pleasurably ahead. But what I am thinking of, this was Channel 4. There was a price to be paid. *But* more of *Dispatches* in a moment.

First, *TV Dinners*, which is turning into a hugely enjoyable series, helped by the restrained backseat role that Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, its presenter, is content to play. He happily lets the amateur cooks get on with their elaborate preparations, politely of*fering now and then to* do some of the nastier jobs. Gutting fish? Prising open the teeth of a freshly killed pig? Nothing is too unpleasant for F-W, as those who recall his masterclass in skinning an eel from an earlier series can attest. "First, take a six-inch nail..."

The first of last night's cooks was Fred Carr, stockbroker and enthusiastic spit-roaster. Carr thought that spit-roasting appealed to the *18th-century gentleman in him.* But by the end of the marathon preparations, it was 20th-century frailties that were to the fore. Whether it was making the stuffing (a level bucketful will suffice), inserting the custom-made spit (*not a job for the squeamish*, but perfect for F-W) or sitting under the hot Cotswold sun for six hours turning it, who knows? But Carr found himself in the position of so many cooks when they have lab*oured too long* and too hard. His guests were wolfing it down, but he had a headache and wasn't hungry: "I'm drinking Coca-Cola and not eating very much pork."

Rather more trencherman *spirit was demonstrated by* Peter Snow, an artist whose birthday supper was cooked (and photographed for reference) by his daughter and fellow brush-wielder, Selina. She took him on a day trip to Boulogne, where she bought *fresh sea-bream and he sneaked* off for Calvados and cake. Back home, supper was the fish, followed by prune and Armagnac tart. Her father's verdict? "The Armagnac sounds *nice*." Selina, no doubt wise to her father's mores *(not to mention his much mores)* poured *two huge measures* of Calvados. "Is that enough, do you think?" mused her father.

Quite enough, if last night's **Dispatches** (Channel 4) is to be believed, which *laid an early claim* to this year's Bah, Humbug Award with an untimely look at alcohol abuse. The programme raised a number of sobering points (and in the process did nothing for the already much-maligned image of Glasgow) but got *itself* — *and me* — thoroughly confused by attempting to pin all alcohol-related problems on to the Portman Group, a drinks industry-funded pressure group. The group, as thereporter Sarah Spiller showed, *had many difficult questions* to answer, but really could not be held responsible for all alcoholic ills. The only answer, according to the experts, is something scary called whole population control. Here's to Christmas in the last chance saloon, then.

BBC1

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (86665)

7.00 BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (T) (40023)

9.00 BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (T) (1968058)

9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (4841077)

9.45 KILROY Topical discussion series (6504226)

10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK With Ainsley Harriott and two reluctant cooks (26868)

11.00 NEWS (T), regional news and weather (3297110) **11.05** The Really Useful Show. Consumer advice (5298023) **11.45** Smillie's People (1339954)

12.00 NEWS (T), regional news and weather (5826987) **12.05pm** Alias Smith and Jones. Lighthearted western adventures (r) (8261874) **12.55** The Weather Show (35825145)

1.00 NEWS (T) and weather (43110) **1.30** Regional News and weather (37826874)

1.40 NEIGHBOURS (T) (29648110) **2.00** Call My Bluff. Word game with Bob Holness, Sandi Toksvig and Alan Coren (3313) **2.30** Peter Seabrook's Gardening Week. Seasonal advice for the green-fingered (787) **3.00** Incognito (5348)

3.30 ANTS IN YOUR PANTS (5982058) **3.50** The Family Ness (r) (6910503) **3.55** Dear Mr Barker (2804482) **4.10** The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest (T) (1809232) **4.35** Grange Hill (r) (T) (7695145) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5253706) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (8482313)

5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (T) (909416)

6.00 NEWS *(T) and weather (416)*

6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (868)

7.00 THIS IS YOUR LIFE *Michael Aspel* emotionally mugs another unsuspecting worthy (T) (7329)

7.30 TOP OF THE POPS (T) (752)

8.00 ONLY FOOLS AND HORSES Another *chance to see this classic* episode from the comedy series starring David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst. Rodney and Albert are concerned about the imminent birth of "son of Del" (r) (T) (235961)

8.50 MORE ANTIQUES ROADSHOW GEMS Hugh Scully presents a selection of the *most* memorable finds in silk, cotton and wool (T) (293313)

9.00 NEWS (T), regional news and weather (3394)

9.30 HETTY WAINTHROPP INVESTIGATES Patricia Routledge as a 60-year-old private detective. This week she is asked to find the mayor's daughter — without alerting the police (T) (419503)

10.25 FILM: Any Which Way You Can (1980). A sequel to *Every Which Way But Loose*, starring Clint Eastwood as a prizefighting trucker who attracts the attention of a mobster looking for a challenger for his fighter. Directed by Buddy Van Horn (T) (338752) **WALES:** Iris Williams **10.55** FILM: Any Which Way You Can **12.45am** FILM: The People Under the Stairs **2.25** News

12.10am FILM: The People Under the Stairs (1991). A horror movie starring Brandon Adams and Everett McGill. Directed by Wes Craven (T) (555849)

1.50 WEATHER (8219627)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: Rural India — A Vulnerable Life (7660042) **6.25** *Developing World (7752077)* **6.50** The Developing World (8993139) **7.15** See Hear Breakfast News (2912226) **7.30** Yakky Duck (5833110) **7.50** Smart (5844226) **8.15** Charlie Chalk (7037619) **8.35** The Record (6043232) **9.00** The Complete Guide To The 20th Century (1748232) **9.10** My Father, My Country (5388226) **10.00** Playdays (2411077) **10.25** The Champions (8175752) **11.15** The Phil Silvers Show (2228400) **11.40** Flash Gordon's Trip To Mars (3038987) **12.00** Operation Survival (73990) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (32961) **1.00** Charlie Chalk (99734874) **1.15** The Oprah Winfrey Show (T) (8319110)

1.55 MIRROR MIRROR (29747435)

2.15 SPORT ON FRIDAY with Helen Rollason. Includes golf, skiing and news of England's cricket tour of Zimbabwe, with Graham Gooch (843110)

3.55 NEWS (T) (6917416) **4.00** Today's the Day (T) (481) **4.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (665)

5.00 ESTHER: Born in Unusual Places (8435)

5.30 GOING, GOING, GONE (145)

6.00 THE MUNSTERS (b/w) (901435)

6.25 UFO *Colonel Foster is tried for espionage (T) (264752)*

Actress Miranda Richardson (7.15pm)

7.15 **HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN WRONGS: Gay Rights** Miranda Richardson talks about the persecution of gay men and lesbians around the world (466752)

7.30 FIRST SIGHT (394) **Wales:** Gluck, Gluck, Gluck **EAST:** Matter of Fact **MIDLANDS:** Midlands Report **NORTH/NORTH EAST/SOUTH WEST/WEST:** Close Up **SOUTH:** Southern Eye

8.00 GLUCK, GLUCK, GLUCK *Do restaurants excessively mark up bottles of wine?* (T) (4619) **WALES: 8.00** In Praise of Older Women

8.30 STEFAN BUCZACKI'S GARDENING BRITAIN *The tour reaches Ellesmere in Shropshire where Stefan is joined by a* team of experts to offer advice on keeping houseplants healthy and coping with kitchen garden catastrophes (T) (4446)

9.00 SHOOTING STARS Reeves and Mortimer's guests are Dervla Kirwan, Zoe Ball, Eric Hall and Roy Walker (T) (1936)

9.30 RED DWARF VI: Rimmerworld When *the ship begins to disintegrate*, Rimmer selflessly takes the only remaining escape pod (r) (T) (56597)

10.00 HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU (12619)

10.30 NEWSNIGHT (T) (777495)

11.15 THE A FORCE A night of black entertainment (482313)

1.15am HUMAN RIGHTS, HUMAN WRONGS (r) (6560530)

CHOICE

Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Gay and Lesbian Rights

BBC2, 7.15pm

The actress Miranda Richardson rounds off the week of programmes on the rights of minorities by highlighting the repression and persecution of lesbians and gay men. *Even in supposedly enlightened Britain* it remains a sensitive area. The programme offers cogent evidence of continued hostility, discrimination and brutality. One man tells how he was beaten up in a car park. But this is nothing compared with what the gay community has to endure elsewhere. In Romania, though the country has moved on from *the terror of the Ceausescu regime*, homosexual men and women still face up to five years in prison. In Central and South America gay men are targeted by death squads. In Iran a lesbian can be put to death *on the evidence of "four righteous men"*.

Lonely Planet: New York

Channel 4, 8.00pm

Cheeky chappie Ian Wright heads for the Big Apple, the first time this series has featured a big city, and is determined as usual not to play the conventional tourist. He ruins this admirable intention early on by emulating every other visitor to New York and heading for the Statue of Liberty. He also follows the orthodox guidebook trail to the graffiti-covered subway and the Empire State Building. But just when you were beginning to think that Wright had defected to the *Judith Chalmers school of travel* programmes, up he pops in less predictable places. He hobnobs with the Jews of the Lower East Side, stops off on the little-known City Island by the Bronx, goes fishing and *checks out the seaside resorts of Coney* Island and Brighton Beach. He even stays out late at night without getting mugged.

In the Wild: Asian Elephants With Goldie Hawn

ITV, 9.00pm

The celebrity wildlife series finds Goldie Hawn touring India in search of elephants. She has fallen in love with them, she tells us, *and "once you love the elephant, you have to* love India". The love-in is conducted with all the Hollywood schmaltz Hawn can muster. She drools, squeals, sobs, plays the twittering innocent and generally never lets *us forget that she is the big movie star.* But she is prepared to risk her dignity by helping to wash down one elephant and riding another, gamely trying to steer it with her bare feet. Wrapped up in this performance is a serious message about trying to save a declining species. The elephant is dying out because India's large and rapidly increasing *population is destroying its habitat.* But Hawn is honest enough to concede that a balance must be struck.

Frasier

Channel 4, 9.30pm

Friends of *Frasier* are in for a treat as a double helping of the American sitcom rounds off the present series. Starting from the basic joke of a shrink who is in as much *need of help as any of his patients, the show* has ambled benignly on, always aware of its limitations and content to work within them. Rooted to a couple of sets, it often consists of little more than a series of loosely connected *gags built around familiar characters whose* behaviour patterns do not change. It is a soothing formula, guaranteed not to jolt you out of your seat. The founding joke resurfaces tonight as Kelsey Grammer's Frasier becomes obsessed with a member of the public who has dared to criticise his radio phone-in. Frasier will not rest content until *the poor man has been hunted down and* forced to explain himself. **Peter Waymark**

6.00am GMTV (7990145)

9.25 SUPERMARKET SWEEP (T) (4753868)

9.55 REGIONAL NEWS (T) (2325226)

10.00 THE TIME ... THE PLACE (21400)

10.30 THIS MORNING (60664665)

12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (r) (3921351)

12.30 NEWS (T) and weather (9716690)

12.55 MURDER, SHE WROTE (r) (9499139)

2.00 HOME AND AWAY (T) (61569464)

2.25 CROSS WITS (T) (68319941)

2.55 YAN CAN COOK — THE BEST OF CHINA (3588990)

3.20 ITN NEWS *(T) (7041400)*

3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (T) (7040771)

3.30 JAYS WORLD *(7759333)* ***3.40*** *ZZZAP!* Christmas Annuals (8305477) **3.55** The Treacle People Christmas Special (5989961) **4.15** Hurricanes (T) (1720771) **4.40** Art Attack Christmas Cracker (T) (1876145)

5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (7207313)

5.40 NEWS (T) and weather (352139)

6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (T) (998961)

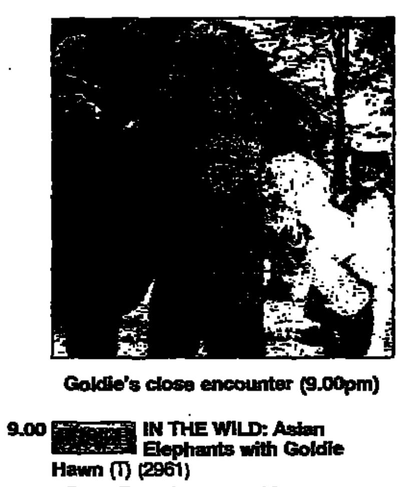
6.25 REGIONAL NEWS (T) (156874)

7.00 CATCHPHRASE presented by Roy Walker (T) (9597)

7.30 CORONATION STREET Des thinks he knows who to blame when Claire receives *a letter from the RAF about her pension* (T) (348)

8.00 THE BILL: Stolen Kisses When a nursery school cleaner takes a young girl hostage, Monroe and Datta uncover a tragic family secret (T) (1145)

8.30 FAITH IN THE FUTURE Faith latches on *to Hannah's business venture as an* opportunity to develop her hobby. Starring Lynda Bellingham and Julia Sawalha (T) (7752)



Goldie's close encounter (9.00pm)

9.00 **IN THE WILD: Asian Elephants with Goldie Hawn** (T) (2961)

10.00 NEWS (T) and weather (23495)

10.30 REGIONAL NEWS (298077)

10.40 FILM: DELIVERANCE (1972) starring *Burt Reynolds, Jon Voight and Ned* Beatty. Classic adventure thriller about four Atlanta businessmen heading for the American backwoods for what's supposed to be a relaxing fishing trip. *Directed by John Boorman* (50774435)

12.45am ED'S NIGHT PARTY (50578)

1.15 FUNNY BUSINESS (40191)

1.45 THE GOOD SEX GUIDE ... LATE (478004)

2.45 BUSHELL ON THE BOX (r) (30714)

3.15 WAR AND REMEMBRANCE Last in *series (r) (451646)*

5.00 INTERNATIONAL TOURING CARS (r) (75998)

5.30 NEWS (31849)

As HTV West except:

12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (9628481)

1.25 CROSS WITS (30279042)

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (29652313)

5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7207313)

6.25-7.00 CENTRAL NEWS AND WEATHER (156874)

10.40 CENTRAL WEEKEND (2307110)

12.10am SLEDGE HAMMER (6175559)

12.45 COMEDY CENTRAL (472820)

2.45 CYBER.CAFE (30714)

3.15 HELTER SKELTER (5065337)

4.05 JOBFINDER (3366627)

5.20 ASIAN EYE (1983288)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

12.55 CORONATION STREET (9628481)

1.25-1.55 CROSSWITS (30279042)

1.55 HOME AND AWAY (21285394)

2.25 HIGH ROAD (68319941)

2.55-3.20 GARDENERS' DIARY (3588990)

5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (7207313)

6.00-7.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (44706)

10.30 WESTCOUNTRY NEWS (289329)

10.45 FIRE AND STEEL (159348)

11.15 Film: REBEL ROUSERS (515435)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

12.55-1.25 CROSS WITS (9628481)

1.25 HOME AND AWAY (30279042)

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE. Australian *medical soap (29652313)*

5.10 HOME AND AWAY (7207313)

6.00-7.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT *(44706)*

10.40 Film: AMERICAN FLYERS (50774435)

5.00am FREESCREEN *(75998)*

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 CROSS WITS *(9628481)*

1.25 HOME AND AWAY (30279042)

1.55 JUSTICE OF THE LAND (21285394)

2.25-3.20 MURDER, SHE WROTE starring Angela Lansbury (9389139)

5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7207313)

6.30-7.00 ANGLIA NEWS (936)

10.40 SHORT SHARP SHOCKS (552787)

10.50 Film: SHE WOKE UP (51738145)

S4C

Starts: 6.30am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (60990) **7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST** (39961) **9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER** (13394) **9.30 Film: PRIDE OF THE MARINES** (66315394) **11.45 THE VERTICAL LOAD** (1371435) **11.50 HOW TO BE AMERICAN** (3623042) **12.00 SESAME STREET** (40936) **1.00pm SLOT MEITHRIN** (49348) **1.30 ROOTY TOOT TOOT** (23321464) **1.45 RACING FROM CHELTENHAM** (84503313) **4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE** (357) ***4.30*** **DESPERATELY SEEKING SOMETHING** (961) **5.00 5 PUMP** (3503) **5.30 COUNTDOWN** (313) **6.00 NEWYDDION** (791665) **6.05 HENO** (810139) **6.35 SION A SIAN** (165706) **7.00 POBOL Y CWM** (103771) **7.25 TERMINAL 3** (361684) **8.00 CEFN GWLAD** (9787) **8.30 NEWYDDION** (5394) **9.00 TU FEWN — TU FAS** (2413) **10.00 BROOKSIDE** (23477) **10.30 WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?** (351435) **11.05 TFI FRIDAY** (512394) **12.10am THE ADAM AND JOE SHOW** (2329424) **12.40 Film: I MONSTER** (1446004) **2.00 Film: CIRCUS OF FEAR** *(606849)* ***3.35 Film:*** **LADIES OF LEISURE** (904714)

6.30am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (r) (60990)

7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (39961)

9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER (13394)

9.30 FILM: Pride of the Marines (1945) A fact-based drama starring John Garfield as a US Marine who is blinded while serving in the Pacific. Directed by Delmer Daves (66315394)

11.45 AUSTRALIA WILD *(r) (T) (981394)*

12.15pm BOX FULL OF STORIES (r) (1542400)

12.40 SESAME STREET (3350481)

1.40 CHANNEL 4 RACING FROM CHELTENHAM Brough Scott introduces live coverage of the **1.55, 2.30, 3.05** and ***3.40*** *races (48650597)*

4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (T) (357)

4.30 COUNTDOWN: The Search for the Supreme Champion (T) (961)

5.00 TV DINNERS (r) (T) (3503)

5.30 OVER THE GARDEN WALL The plants of the Avon and Cheddar Gorges. Plus the national collections of pinks in Hereford and clematis in Worcestershire (r) (T) (313)

6.00 TFI FRIDAY The guests include Rachel Hunter and Angus Deayton (42348)

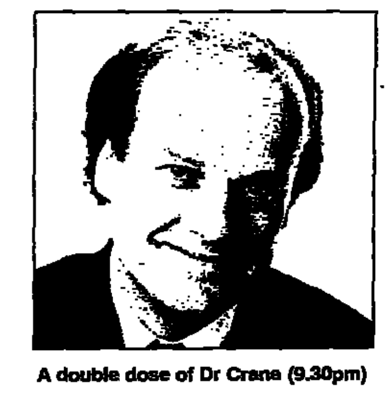
7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (T) (281329)

7.55 THE SLOT (428752)

8.00 **LONELY PLANET** Ian Wright visits New York (T) (9787)

8.30 BROOKSIDE JC decides to take the law into his own hands; Jimmy is determined to leave the Close for good (T) (5394)

9.00 CAROLINE IN THE CITY: Caroline and the Married Man American comedy series starring Lea Thompson. Richard wrestles with his conscience when he *inadvertently sets up Caroline with a* married man (T) (2232)



A double dose of Dr Crane (9.30pm)

9.30 **FRASIER** A double bill of the award-winning comedy *(T)* (85139)

10.30 WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY? Improvised comedy with Clive Anderson (T) (351435)

11.05 TFI FRIDAY (r) (512394)

12.10am THE ADAM AND JOE SHOW *starring Adam Buxton and Joe Cornish* (2329424)

12.40 FILM: I, Monster (1971) A reworking of *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, starring Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing Directed by Stephen Weeks (1446004)

2.00 FILM: Circus of Fear (1967) A thriller starring Leo Genn and Christopher Lee Directed by Werner Jacobs and John Llewellyn Moxey (606849)

3.35 FILM: Ladies of Leisure (1930, b/w) A romantic drama starring Barbara Stanwyck and Ralph Graves Directed by Frank Capra (904714). Ends at **5.25**

● For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

7.00am Love Connection (4303955) **7.20** Press Your Luck (4496519) ***7.40*** *Jeopardy!* (3540139) **8.10** Hotel (5895938) **9.00** Another World (2553969) **9.45** Oprah Winfrey *(7301961)* ***10.40*** *Real TV (4231874)* **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (9863874) **12.00** Geraldo (93042) **1.00pm** 1 to 3 (60313) ***3.00*** *Jenny Jones (89329)* ***4.00*** Oprah Winfrey (95936) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (6329) **6.00** New Adventures of Superman (99226) **7.00** The Simpsons (7058) **7.30** M*A*S*H (6771) **8.00** Mad About You (6706) **8.30** Coppers (2313) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (29481) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (39868) ***11.00*** New Adventures of Superman (79503) **12.00** L.A.P.D (74578) **12.30am** Real TV (27172) **1.00** Hit Mix (16240)

SKY 2

7.00pm Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1459874) **8.00** Nowhere Man (1362394) **9.00** Models Inc (1495058) **10.00** Fire (1458145) **11.00** Late Show, with David Letterman (1700868) **12.00 FILM: Return to Salem's Lot** (2102714) **2.00am** Hit Mix Long Play (8116578)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week

SKY MOVIES

6.00am A Christmas Romance (1994) (40348) **8.00 The Southern Star (1969)** (44329) **10.00 Son of the Pink Panther (1993)** (85023) **12.00 Cult Rescue (1994)** (54752) **2.00pm Christmas Without Snow (1980)** (26349) **4.00 Best Shot (1986)** (4961) **6.00 Son of the Pink Panther (1993)** (33684) **8.00 The Brady Bunch Movie (1995)** (18329) **10.00 Wes Craven Presents Mind Ripper (1995)** (979023) **11.40 Day of Reckoning (1994)** (446145) **1.15am Death Machine (1994)** [illegible]

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Second Honeymoon (1937) [illegible] **7.30 A Christmas Carol** [illegible] (54868) **8.30 Perils of Problemina (1985)** (50110) **10.00 The St Tammany Miracle (1994)** (83665) **12.00 Midnight Run for Your Life (1994)** (52394) **2.00pm One Cooks, the Other Doesn't (1983)** (17690) **4.00 The New Adventures of Little Toot (1993)** (84874) **5.00 A Christmas Carol (1979)** (8139) **6.00 The Other Mother (1995)** (64955) **7.30 UK Top 10** (9481) ***8.00 Schindler's List (1993)*** *(92741394)* **11.15 When a Man Loves a Woman (1994)** (70182110) **1.20am Freaked (1993)** (2801153) **2.50 The Most Desired Man (1994)** (476795) **4.30 The Other Mother (1995)** (20443)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Sky's the Limit (1943) (8791232) **6.00 Our Man Flint (1966)** (3015771) **8.00 The Sea Wolves (1980)** (3180418) **10.00 Fatal Beauty (1987)** (9408706) **11.45 Margin for Murder (1981)** (1951313) **1.20am A Day at the Races (1937)** (8048191) **3.10-5.20 Random Harvest (1942)** (17179297)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.

6.00am Mouse Tracks (4122145) **6.25** Quack Attack (4038752) **6.50** Bonkers (9015232) **7.15** Darkwing Duck (8243954) **7.40** Aladdin (3402232) **8.05** Quack Pack (3903503) **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa (3167936) **8.40** Sing Me a Story (8090665) **9.05** Groundling Marsh (5637665) **9.30** Big Garage (3149752) **9.45** Lamb Chop (153684) **10.15** Muppet Babies (7914918) **10.40** Adventures in Wonderland (7734329) **11.10** Mouse Tracks (8096226) **11.40** Under the Umbrella Tree (9324787) **12.10pm** Fraggle Rock (3962348) **12.35** Lamb Chop (1489752) **1.05** Goof Troop (82209619) **1.30** Aladdin (94385935) **1.55** Darkwing Duck (94393955) **2.25** Bonkers (88959619) **2.50** Quack Attack (3344706) **3.20** Timon and Pumbaa (9780042) **3.30** Goof Troop (7878936) **3.55** Timon and Pumbaa (1276955) **4.05** Goof Troop (6515477) **4.35** Bonkers (2368226) **5.00** Aladdin (7590226) **5.25** Timon and Pumbaa (3903955) **5.35** Darkwing Duck (503892) **6.00** Sky Trackers (6145) **6.30** Freaky Friday (58928313) **8.10-10.00 FILM: The Christmas Box** (56567435)

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Center [illegible] **7.30** [illegible] Netbusters (38225) **12.00** Aerobics (27690) **12.30pm** Asian Golf Show (48416) **1.30** Tight Lines (47145) **2.30** Spanish Football (62139) **3.30** Finish Line (9077) **4.00** Hall of Fame (5684) **4.30** World Sport Special (1868) **5.00** Netbusters (8042) **6.00** Sports Centre (67752) ***7.00*** *Trans World Sport* (69023) **8.00** Squash: World Open (78771) **9.00** World Sport Special (37936) **9.30** Hold the Back Page (87771) **10.30** Football: Best of All Time — English XI (81923) **11.30** Sports Centre (18787) **12.30am** Wrestling (79820) **1.30** Hold the Back Page (10337) **2.30-3.30** Sports Centre (65462)

SKY SPORTS 2

8.00pm Rugby Club (6687597) **9.00** Power Week (6763961) **10.00** Wrestling (6773348) **11.00** Big League Classics (3989503) **12.30am-1.00** Second Innings (7369375)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Cricket: Best of All Time (43625481) **1.00pm** League Review (12889936) **2.30** World of Sailing (63871936) **3.00** Pool: Mosconi Cup 1995 (11633400) **5.30** World of Speed and Beauty (83875752) **6.00** Surfing Tour (43621665) **7.00** Football: Preston v Blackpool — Live (36632023) **10.00** Trans World Sport (41012139) **11.00-12.00** The Rugby Club (60780706)

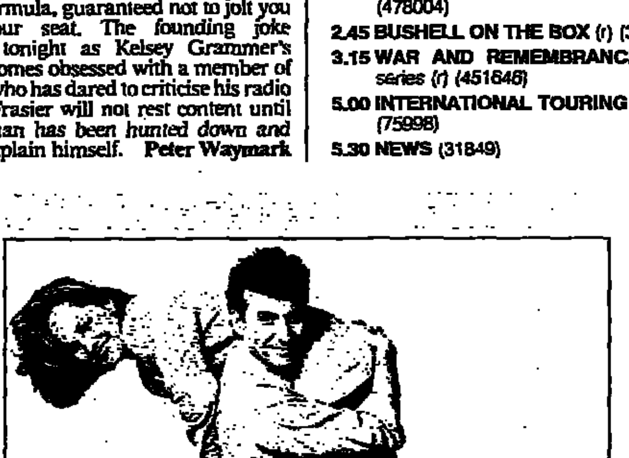
EUROSPORT

7.30am *Sailing (10874):* ***8.00*** *Eurofun* (46771) **8.30** Skiing: World Cup Women's Giant Slalom — Live (87416) **9.30** Figure Skating (92139) ***10.30*** *Skiing: World Cup* Men's Downhill — Live (64868) **11.30** Skiing: World Cup Women's Giant Slalom (52706) **1.00pm** *Freestyle Skiing: World* Cup — Live (72684) **2.00** Swimming — Live (36139) **3.30** Pool: World Trickshot Masters (4145) ***4.00*** *International Motorsports Report* (39348) **5.00** Ski Special (3110) **6.00** Snooker: German Open — Live (501110) ***9.00*** *Swimming* (38232) **9.30** Sumo (69139) **10.30** Athletics: Monaco IAAF Gala (39435) **11.00** Snowboarding (30077) **11.30-12.30am** *Boxing: 10 Rounds Heavyweight* (30955)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Krypton Factor (5848855) **6.30** [illegible] Albion Market (5135226) **10.00** What the Papers Say (7914394) **10.20** The Day (8527139) **10.30** Nearest and Dearest (1700435) **11.00** Shabby Tiger (1486077) **12.00** Classic Coronation St (1791787) **12.30pm** Watching (5139042) **1.00** Adam Smith (1364665) **1.30** Families (5138313) **2.00** This Year, Next Year (6112771) **3.00** Nearest and Dearest (1708023) **3.30** What the Papers Say (71086400) **3.50** The Day (18277428) **4.00** All for Love (2258868) **5.00** Shabby Tiger (1895503) **6.00** Classic Coronation St (1597110) **6.30** Families (1684680) **7.00** Doing Their Thing (1836232) **7.30** Watching (1690874) **8.00** The XYY Man (8547597) **9.00** Classic Coronation St (2143077) **9.25** The Good Life Guide (2021684) **10.00-11.00** All for Love (8633348)

From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors



Helen Hunt and Paul Reiser in *Mad About You* (Sky One, 8.00pm)

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-9.00 TV *High* Street. Includes consumer news and features [illegible]

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography: Michelangelo (2078690) **5.00** Ancient Mysteries (1741619) **6.00** Weapons of War (4214874) **7.00-8.00** Biography: Nixon (6774077)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from **8pm-4am** Monday to Wednesday and **1am-4am** Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from **8am-4am** every day on cable

1.00am The Twilight Zone (6618004) **1.30** *Tales of the Unexpected* (6299356) **2.00** New Alfred Hitchcock (3120882) **2.30** Rod Serling's Night Gallery (3149917) **3.00-4.00** Friday the 13th (2138059)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (4873706) ***9.30*** Gardeners' Diary (2140145) **10.00** Go Fishing (9355313) **10.30** Hometime (4862690) ***11.00*** *The Restoration Game* (1471481) **11.30** Craftwise (1472110) **12.00** [illegible] tures (7023619) **3.30-4.00** This Old House

DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.

4.00pm Fishing Adventures (8272868) **4.30** *Roadshow (8261752)* ***5.00*** *Time Travellers* (7922936) **5.30** Terra X (8358232) **6.00** Wild Things (2056752) **7.00** Next Step (7935400) **7.30** *Mysterious World (8262481)* **8.00** Natural Born Killers (1879058) **9.00** Justice Files (1786394) **10.00** Porsche: The Racing Legend (1789481) **11.00** Not Too Young to Die (1101416) **12.00** Wings of the Red Star (8218530) **1.00am** The Extremists (5666375) **1.30-2.00** Special Forces: Gurkhas (7026443)

UK GOLD

7.00am Going for Gold (2782771) **7.35** Crossroads (2486110) **8.00** Neighbours (9103690) **8.25** EastEnders (2488684) **9.00** The Bill (4779936) ***9.30*** *Colditz* (6956771) **10.30** The Sullivans (4871348) **11.00** The Onedin Line (1019481) **12.00** Crossroads (40615597) ***12.25pm*** *Neighbours* (40618684) **12.55** EastEnders (1601481) **1.30** A Chip Off the Old Block (2145690) **2.00** The Two Ronnies (9358400) **3.00** Sale of the Century (7025077) **3.30** The Bill (8368619) **4.00** All Creatures Great and Small (1577619) ***5.00*** EastEnders (6268961) **5.35** Crossroads (6025110) **6.00** You Rang M'Lord? (2058110) **7.00** Bob's Full House (3576416) **7.45** The Best of Top of the Pops (1327665) **8.25** Ever Decreasing Circles (2796752) **9.00** Casualty (81487413) **10.05** The Bill (4235058) **10.40** Men Behaving Badly (2869601) **11.15** Live at Jongleurs (5326394) **11.45 FILM: The Young Americans** (2347042) **1.25am** Miami Vice (6529424) **2.20** Shopping

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (4048139) **6.30** Meltdown (4042955) **6.45** Halfway across the Galaxy (627684) ***7.15*** *Ready or Not* (624597) ***7.45*** *California Dreams* (623868) **8.15** Sweet Valley High (234503) **8.45** Art Attack (9543787) **9.00** *Tiny and Crew* (9829416) **9.20** Brum (9736752) **9.40** Johnson and Friends (3788085) **10.00** *Robin and Rosie of Cockleshell Bay* (5013987) **10.20** Philbert the Frog (6457771) **10.40** Charlie Chalk (4344313) ***11.00*** *Dinobabies* (64058) **11.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (65787) **12.00** Barney (61058) **12.30pm** Where's Wally? [illegible] Ready or Not (3435) **4.00** California Dreams (9042) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (5226)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Turtles (89232) **6.30** Biker Mice (73446) **7.00** Rocko (5901085) **7.15** Hey Arnold! (7388329) **7.30** Rugrats (23348) **8.00** Doug (22145) **8.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters (21416) **9.00** Carmen Sandiego *(49868)* ***9.30*** *Wishbone (59787)* **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (7933400) **10.10** Katie and Orbie (3284042) **10.35** Mr Men (2120690) **10.45** Bananas in Pyjamas (2044226) **11.00** Clarissa Explains It All (53706) **12.30pm** Sister Sister (53503) **1.00** Babar (30684) **1.30** Katie and Orbie (52874) **2.00** Little Bear Stories (3597) **2.30** Stickin Around (50232) **4.00** Insektors (2589905) **4.15** Technik (2560746) **4.30** Rugrats *(8263435)* ***4.45*** *Doug (8251690)* ***5.00*** *Sister* Sister (4067) **5.30** Moesha (9690) **6.00** Round the Twist (6503) **6.30-7.00** Sussed!

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Diff'rent Strokes (7313) **7.30** *Benson (7969)* ***8.00*** *Due South (76313)* **9.00** Almost Perfect (31706) **9.30** Taxi (77139) **10.00** Entertainment UK (26961) ***10.30*** *Girls on Top (39481)* ***11.00*** *Barry* Welsh is Coming (30023) **11.30** Nightstand (16329) **12.30am** Sledge Hammer! (61530) ***1.00*** *Due South (73646)* ***2.00*** *Entertainment* UK (30707) **2.30** Barry Welsh is Coming (80424) **3.00** Girls on Top (70462) **3.30-** ***4.00*** *Almost Perfect (80284)*

BRAVO

12.00 Fantasy Island (2054394) **1.00pm** Remington Steele (2063042) **2.00** Manimal (9350868) **3.00** Fantasy Island (1470752) **4.00 FILM: UFO Cafe** (7014961) **6.00** Thunderbirds (2156706) **7.00** The Champions (1784936) **8.00** Starsky and Hutch (1799684) **9.00** Crime Story (1896348) **10.00-12.00 FILM: Tale of a Vampire** (1479023)

UK LIVING

8.00am *Kilroy (1468503)* ***7.00*** *The Agony* Experience (1000348) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (3309226) **8.20** Rhodes *around Britain (1288752)* **8.55** Turnabout (8663058) **9.35** Trivial Pursuit (8608482) **10.00** Entertainment Now! (6552313) **10.05** [illegible] The Agony Experience *(2367690)* **3.00** Live at Three (5316058) **4.00** Who's Sorry Now? (2285042) **4.30** Talkabout (2515961) **5.05** *Lingo (45639868)* **5.30** Lucky Ladders (2378706) **6.00** I Dream of Jeannie (2375619) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (6587431) **7.05** The New Mr and Mrs Show (4128139) **7.35** Trivial Pursuit (4752684) **8.00** General Practice (3014042) **9.00 FILM: Game of Love** (3197329) **11.00-12.00** The Spicy Sex Files (1913868)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Blockbusters (5315) **5.30** Treasure Hunt (60348) **6.30** Catchphrase (9941) **7.00** The Pyramid Game (3329) **7.30** Hart to Hart (65905) **8.30** Duty Free (8684) **9.00** Bergerac (54315) **10.00** Stay Lucky (35732) **11.00** Rising Damp (83139) **11.30** Evening *Shade (35961)* ***12.00*** *Lou Grant (86066)* **1.00am** Bergerac (19462) **2.00** Hart to Hart (63356) **3.00** Lou Grant (77646) **4.00** All *Together Now (38085)* ***4.30-5.00*** The Black Stallion (17917)

MTV

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VH-1

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ZEE TV

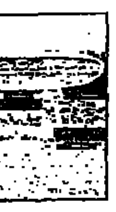
7.00am Cricket: India v South Africa **8.00** Life Style East **9.00** Shri Krishna **9.30** Chehre **10.00** Hasratein **10.30** Urdu Serial, Kachwa Aur Kharagosh **11.00** Cookery Programme: Zaike Ka Safar **11.30** Campus **12.00** Andaz **12.30pm** Nukkad **1.00** Tamil **FILM: Aalaya Deepam** **4.00** Mere Saath Chal **4.30** Sona Chandi **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** ZEE Presents **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Cricket: India v South Africa **8.00** News and Euronews ***8.30*** *Antakshari* **9.00-12.00** Hit Star Season — Ajay Devgan

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm, then TNT films as below.

8.00pm WCW Nitro: Where the Big Boys Play! (41193058) **9.00 The Time Machine** [illegible]

هكذا عن الأصل



CRICKET 39

Lord's faces up to shape of things to come

SPORT

KICKING & SCREAMING 42

Missing in action: Gazza in Glasgow

Leonard takes over leadership

New England put on hold by captain's injury

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

THE path towards a new future for English rugby is clearly not destined to be a smooth one. Having decided at the start of the season that Phil de Glanville should succeed Will Carling as England captain, Jack Rowell, the coach, was yesterday forced to announce de Glanville's withdrawal from the international against Argentina at Twickenham tomorrow.

The Bath centre strained a thigh during the game against the New Zealand Barbarians on November 30 and, though it mended sufficiently to allow him to play in the Courage Clubs Championship match against Harlequins last weekend, the injury flared up again in training at Bisham Abbey on Wednesday and has failed to respond to treatment. His misfortune allows the "old firm" of Carling and Jeremy Guscott, who have played together in 43 internationals, to take over midfield operations again.

Guscott, surprisingly named on the left wing last Monday, moves inwards and the vacancy is filled by Tony Underwood, who resumes his international career after an 18-month hiatus. The captaincy, however, does not return to Carling but alights on the broad shoulders of Jason Leonard, the former carpenter from Barking.

Leonard, 28, was named as pack leader and vice-captain this season and the decision to make him captain was, in Rowell's view, a natural extension. Were he to leave the field, however, Carling would lead the side.

Leonard, who has propped the England scrum in 50 internationals, the first of them against Argentina in 1990, regards himself as merely a stopgap for de Glanville. "It's a great honour, but my role as vice-captain has just gone on a stage for one match," he said. "Phil is the captain of the side and I need to carry on what he has started this season. We have a side that's quite young, that shows a willingness to play open rugby, that wants to make the game theirs, and it's very exciting."

Allan Bateman has been recalled by Wales for the game against South Africa in Cardiff on Sunday — six years after winning the last of his four caps. The Richmond centre takes over from Gareth Thomas, who has not recovered from a mouth injury.

It will be a popular honour for rugby's epitome of Essex man. He has established a worldwide reputation as a powerful scrummager, on either side, and he has a cheerful, down-to-earth approach. "There are 14 other class guys on the field and my role is to make sure they are prepared for what will face them," Leonard said. "My approach is very calm and collected."

Some observers offered the opinion that, judged on his form against the New Zealanders, de Glanville did not merit a place in the England team. However, that view was made to look suspect by the quality of de Glanville's performance for his club against Harlequins six days ago.

He will remain with the squad this weekend and, fitness permitting, will resume his role against Scotland on February 1, when England open their defence of the five nations' championship.

The latest change comes on top of those forced by concussion to Adedayo Adebayo on the left wing and Tim Stimpson at full back. "It's a setback but what England do have is a squad of players, which you need," Rowell said. "The way the international season is developing, there will be times when you have successive games and people on the bench have to feel they are interchangeable.

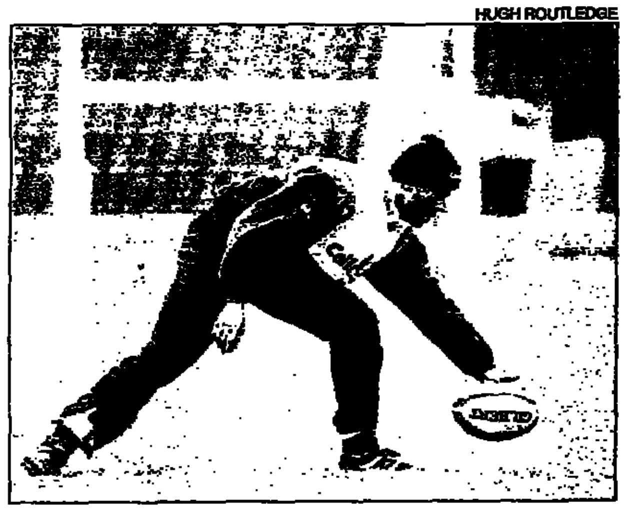
"I'm pleased that Tony Underwood has emerged from a fallow season and it gives Jerry Guscott the chance to show off his wares. The chemistry in the midfield could be very interesting. Will has done immeasurably well in handling the psychology of becoming a player after being captain for so long and Jerry will be trying his darnedest."

Underwood, 27, will win his 21st cap but his first since the World Cup semi-final against New Zealand in June last year. Since then he has recovered from a leg injury and settled into second-division rugby with Newcastle; he played at Twickenham last Saturday, for the Barbarians against Australia, and his presence, together with that of Guscott, will increase the pace in the back division.

Should Mike Catt not recover from a blow on the chest, the midfield could change further with the introduction of Alex King. Paul Grayson, the stand-off half throughout last season, was brought in as cover yesterday but Catt is expected to demonstrate his fitness at training this morning.

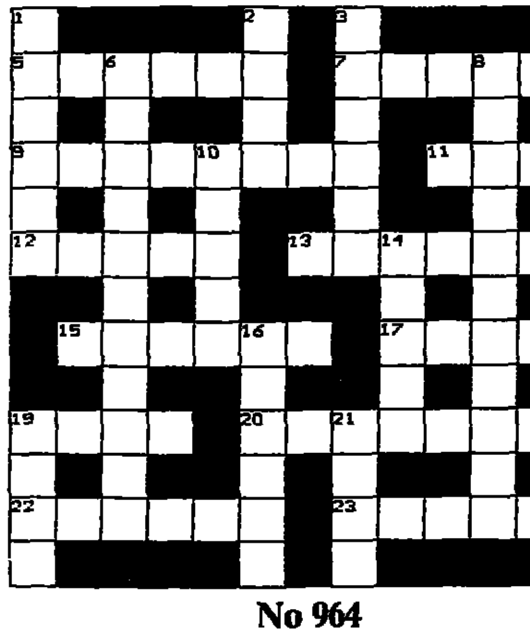
Stransky signs, page 40
Gerald Davies, page 40

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Guscott aims to stoop to conquer at centre tomorrow

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 964

ACROSS
- 5 Sumptuously entertain (6)
- 7 Food basket: obstruct (6)
- 9 Ancient Indian holy language (8)
- 11 Publicise; stopper (4)
- 12 Wound wool: flying geese (5)
- 13 Symbolic representation (6)
- 15 Pay no attention to (6)
- 17 Nearby: pub (5)
- 19 Move fast, with a buzz (4)
- 20 Bridge for water (8)
- 22 Remove from statute book (6)
- 23 John —, chemist; Hugh —, Chancellor 1945 (6)

DOWN
- 1 Crucial, unstable period (6)
- 2 Loved: expensive (4)
- 3 Regular beat (6)
- 4 Stupefy with chemicals (4)
- 6 Team of activators (6,5)
- 8 Hay-fever incidence indicator (6,5)
- 10 Japanese wrestling (5)
- 14 Lower part of hull; nonsense (5)
- 16 In fact; surely not? (6)
- 18 Long prayer sequence (6)
- 19 Nothing (4)
- 21 Pakistani language (4)

The solution to 963 will be published Wednesday, December 18

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CLIVE MASON / ALLSPORT

Knight, who made a century in England's first innings, falls leg-before to Olonga for eight in their second at the Athletic Club yesterday

Atherton enjoys moving experience

From Simon Wilde in Bulawayo

BULAWAYO (third day of four): Matabeleland, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 372 runs to beat England

IN THE course of five days, life on England's tour of Zimbabwe has undergone a dramatic change, from one large banana skin to a bowl of cherries. Rival theories as to how this has come about are that either everyone has struck form at the same time, or England are being lured into a false sense of security in another stage of the phoney war that traditionally precedes a Test series. The truth probably lies somewhere in between.

Certainly the pieces of the jigsaw appear to be falling into place here at the Athletic Club. Yesterday, as England manoeuvred themselves into a strong position on a rain-shortened third day of their match against Matebeleland, the two frontline batsmen short of runs, Michael Atherton and Graham Thorpe, scored their first half-centuries of the tour to help set up an England declaration. Darren Gough had earlier taken the one remaining Matebeleland wicket, to finish with figures of six for 64.

David Lloyd, the England coach, and Atherton himself were, naturally, delighted. "Everything is coming together," Lloyd said. "All our batsmen are in the runs, we have a fast bowler with six wickets and a spinner [Tufnell] with five. Our spinners, Tufnell and Croft are bowling well in tandem. Caddick is starting to fire. We are building on our game all the time."

Atherton's form was the most heartening of the day. He started like a man in need of runs, searching for the middle of the bat and enjoying slices of luck, which have been long overdue. The benefits of the injections he received last week to ease his severe back pain became apparent as he moved freely into line and unleashed some vintage strokes.

India triumph 39

He batted through 36 overs for 55 before dragging a ball from Vaghmaria, the left-arm spinner, into the hands of mid-on and was clearly still feeling so chipper four hours later that he jogged the two miles back to the hotel in pouring rain after a thunderstorm halted play for the day at 4pm.

Atherton's place at the wicket was taken by Thorpe, who swiftly enjoyed a let-off, James missing a stumping chance. Thorpe needed no second invitation and got his head down to play himself back into touch against the undemanding challenges posed by the two spinners. One over from Vaghmaria, in which Hussain had already pulled a six, saw him cut two balls to the boundary and drive a third for four. He later brought up his fifty with a six against the same bowler.

Thorpe's 65 occupied 101 balls and once he was out England declared on 230 for five — Stewart and Hussain having made forties — and left Matebeleland to score an improbable 377 to win. They had survived four overs when the day was brought to its premature end but England will be confident of completing a timely victory today, 48 hours before the first one-day international.

England must, though, remind themselves who they have been outplaying this week. Matebeleland are a weak side. Their batsmen show limited technique based on a desire to drive and to cut — Atherton wisely posted a fly-slip for Gough and Caddick late in the day — and betray a dislike of the short ball. Their bowling, which effectively means their seam bowling, is only strong on paper. Olonga and Mbangwa are promising but raw and Streak, the man who also spearheads Zimbabwe's attack, did not bowl yesterday. England should ask themselves why.

It is possible that Streak, who has played little cricket since recovering from a groin strain and posed few threats in the first innings here, is not match-fit, in which case England really are in a strong position going into the Test.

It may be, though, that Zimbabwe are deliberately keeping him under wraps, which would explain why he remained on the field yesterday despite supposedly being prevented from bowling by a niggling knee injury.

England will discover the truth next week, but, either way, they should expect life to be tougher from now on.

SCOREBOARD FROM BULAWAYO

ENGLAND XI: First Innings 334 (N V Knight 114, J P Crawley 63)

Second Innings

N V Knight lbw b Olonga	8
*M A Atherton c G J Whittall b Vaghmaria	55
†A J Stewart c G J Whittall b Vaghmaria	43
N Hussain c James b A R Whittall	40
G P Thorpe c G J Whittall b Vaghmaria	65
R C Irani not out	10
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 3)	9
Total (5 wkts dec)	230

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-88, 3-121, 4-196, 5-230.

BOWLING: Olonga 11-3-41-1; Mbangwa 11-2-35-0; Rennie 10-2-32-0; G J Whittall 3-0-17-0; Vaghmaria 16.3-3-58-3; A R Whittall 16-3-42-1.

MATABELELAND: First Innings

G J Whittall c Irani b Gough	19
*J A Rennie c Tufnell b Caddick	0
M H Dekker c Knight b Caddick	26
M Ranchod c Stewart b Gough	0
†W R James c and b Tufnell	62
M D Abrams c Stewart b Gough	15
H H Streak c and b Tufnell	25
D Vaghmaria b Gough	12
A R Whittall b Gough	7
H K Olonga c Atherton b Gough	7
M Mbangwa not out	7
Extras (lb 2, nb 6)	8
Total	188

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-32, 3-32, 4-68, 5-104, 6-142, 7-154, 8-172, 9-173

BOWLING: Gough 17.2-1-64-6; Caddick 12-1-38-2; Irani 7-3-26-0; Tufnell 20-5-40-2; Croft 9-3-18-0.

Second Innings

G J Whittall not out	4
M H Dekker not out	1
Total (no wkt)	5

BOWLING: Gough 2.2-1-4-0; Caddick 2-1-1-0

Umpires: R Tiffin and J Coventry.

Stevenage's hopes fall to ground

Russell Kempson finds an old problem has reopened old wounds in the FA Cup

ONE of the most acrimonious disputes of the last football season involved Stevenage Borough, the Vauxhall Conference champions, and the Football League. Stevenage claimed their rightful place in what is now the Nationwide League third division, but the league declined them the opportunity, refusing to budge from its stance that the club's Broadhall Way ground was not up to scratch.

The matter rumbled on throughout the season and eventually ended up in the High Court, where, not surprisingly, the league emerged victorious. Though Stevenage continued to moan about the injustice of it all, they were sent back to the Conference, their dreams shattered.

Broadhall Way has since been improved to meet league regulations and yet, at the club's first subsequent opportunity to provide proof positive of its readiness to join the big boys, they have been found sadly wanting. Stevenage's FA Cup first-round tie against Birmingham City, on January 4, has been switched to St Andrew's.

Local police have advised the club that the ground — which is only the width of a £10 note away from finally gaining league approval — is not yet ready to accept the travelling Birmingham hordes, especially those who arrive without tickets. On this advice, ratified by the Football Association (FA), the tie was switched.

"Our primary concern is public safety and we had grave reservations about the game going ahead," Inspector Chris Moulder, of Hertfordshire police, said yesterday. "We were worried by the ground's suitability for a match of this magnitude at this time." Fears included the segregation of rival supporters, minor building work still underway on site and the lack of a completed police control room.

Many a professional side has fallen at such an intimidating non-league venue, but if Stevenage have lost that advantage, there will be some consolation for the club, if not the supporters. Some of the romance of the Cup may have been lost, but there should be a financial gain. Instead of a 7,000-capacity crowd at Broadhall Way, from which Stevenage could expect a share of the takings — 45 per cent to the away side, ten per cent to the FA pool — of about £30,000, by making a short trip up the motorway and playing in front of 20,000 spectators at St Andrew's, their windfall could approach £135,000.

Stevenage are, understandably, mortified. "It would have been lovely to see the place packed, but the whole town wants to see the game," Clive Abrey, the club's commercial manager, said. "At least they can achieve that now."

Any thoughts of rebellion among the fans, robbed of the prospect of great deeds on their own patch, should by eased by the announcement that Stevenage are running ten coaches to Birmingham free of charge. A grand gesture by the club . . . and there should still be plenty of change left over from its big pay day.

Ronaldo pips Shearer

ALAN SHEARER, the Newcastle United forward, has been pipped by the Barcelona striker, Ronaldo, to one of the first important awards of the year. Ronaldo, 20, the Brazilian sensation, has been named *World Soccer* magazine's world player of the year, polling 16.56 per cent of readers' votes, ahead of Shearer, who was second with 14.42 per cent, and AC Milan's Liberia international, George Weah, in third.

The trio will also share top billing when Fifa, the sport's world governing body, officially announces its player of the year in Lisbon on January 20. They are the leading contenders for an honour decided by the votes of 120 national team coaches.

Bobby Robson, the Barcelona manager and former England coach, is in no doubt as to the merits of his player. "You can go anywhere you like in the world and you won't find a player like Ronaldo," he said. "Can anybody anywhere show me a better player? He's simply sensational."

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هكذا من الاصل

Divided US capital faces ruin after 'home rule' failure

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

THE US capital is heading for financial collapse unless the federal Government urgently takes over responsibility for prisons, medical care and roads, the Washington DC financial control board said yesterday.

A 46-page strategic plan, published yesterday, is a scathing indictment of the district's 22-year experiment in "home rule" — running itself as the District of Columbia, independent of any of the states.

For those two decades the most powerful Government in the world has been unable to halt the deterioration of its capital. Drinking water is declared unsafe several times a year; schools lack textbooks; main streets are studded with potholes three feet deep, covered with metal sheets but never repaired; gunshots are heard within a few blocks of the Senate.

Washington is one of America's most racially divided cities, with white professionals crowded into the northeastern quadrant of its 69 square miles. Millions of tourists visit the city's renowned monuments and museums.

Yet the capital jails more black men than graduate from its high school every year, and black babies die at rates higher than in any other American city.

Residents regularly attack Marion Barry, the Mayor, and his administration for inefficiency and incompetence. Mr Barry was re-elected as Mayor in 1994, even though he had presided for 12 years over the city's decline, and had been filmed in 1990 by FBI cameras smoking crack in a motel with a model. He was jailed for six months.

But the city's reliance on local taxes for most of its income is also at the heart of the problem. Three quarters of its population is black and many residents are on welfare, meaning that tax revenues are low and benefits bills are high. White professionals tend to move to the affluent suburbs, where taxes are much lower.

In contrast, British cities receive much of their income from central government and only part from local taxes. That method of spreading the tax burden has helped to prevent the emergence of American-style ghettos in Britain.

Barry: criticised for alleged inefficiency

Washington's problems are about to grow worse, as under the new welfare laws signed by President Clinton it must find jobs for thousands of people now receiving welfare. However, most of the city's jobs are in government, inappropriate for many long-term welfare recipients.

According to Washington DC's board, however much the district improves efficiency the financial crisis will continue unless the city is subsumed within a well-off state. But the neighbouring states, Maryland and Virginia, are fiercely opposed to such suggestions, as they would be saddled with Washington's problems.

The alternative, as the board recommends, is for the federal Government to take over the city's $400 million (£250 million) annual bill for Medicaid — the medical assistance programme for the poor — together with the main prison, the city's mental health programme, road and bridge maintenance and a hefty slice of the $5 billion shortfall in retirement payments for teachers, firefighters, policemen and judges.

Mr Barry has made clear that he supports this plan. However, Congress has traditionally been reluctant to commit federal funds to the capital, for fear of political opposition in the states.

RODNEY CURTIS/AP

Brian Dahley with Taylor, his healthy 18-month-old son, and wife Heather at home in Midland, Michigan. As a four-month foetus, Taylor made medical history when he had a bone marrow transplant to correct an inherited weakness in his immune system

Luxury shops hail the comeback of American excess

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

AMERICAN shopkeepers are reporting a surge in "big spending" and are detecting a return to the free-wheeling self-gratification of the mid-1980s.

Independent statistics are showing an 18 per cent rise last year in spending on "luxury" goods. One analyst yesterday predicted that it could be just the start of a top-end spending boom which will spread across the Atlantic.

The self-indulgence sector blossomed far more than mundane items, such as food, clothing and electronic goods, which rose by 5 per cent. The figures, reported by the New York-based *Tactical Retail Monitor*, stated that Americans spent more than $35 billion in the past 12 months on non-essential "reward" items.

Isaac Lagnado, publisher of the newsletter, said yesterday: "The Eighties are back, for sure. The trend is now well established and it is OK to be flamboyant again."

He pointed to the success of items such as $250 stainless steel toasters, which are capable of toasting only two slices of bread at a time. At the New York branch of Prada, the upmarket outfitter's, there is a three-month waiting list for $400 men's flannel trousers, while Tiffany, the Fifth Avenue jeweller, can barely keep up with sales of a new and distinctly uncheap line of trinkets (prices run up to $19,000 per item).

Mr Lagnado said that the "luxury boomlet" showed a marked change from last year, when US shopkeepers had an unusually slow festive season. "Last Christmas was the third worst for a generation," said Mr Lagnado.

Bob Wharen, managing director of the Americas branch of Rolls-Royce, said: "Sales of motor cars for the last year are up by 18 per cent, following a similar rise last year. We are seeing more optimism from customers, with people ready to grant themselves permission to reward themselves. There are also many more inquiries."

All 50 models of a new, limited-edition Jaguar sold out within eight days for $75,000 apiece from a Neiman Marcus Christmas catalogue and motor trade statistics for the top end of the car market showed a 12 per cent growth in sales.

Explanations for the sudden boom range from the bullishness of Wall Street, which has seen a prolonged and record high, to the fact that the baby-boom generation is reaching the age of financial freedom from school fees and mortgages. There may also be a desire to escape the greyness of recent years.

At Fendi, the newest hot fashion store on Fifth Avenue, clusters of women wait to inspect the latest fur coats, undeterred by prices which typically reach $40,000. Plastic carrier bags are more than $500. Patek Philippe has a waiting list for its $44,500 watches.

Mr Lagnado said that figures indicated a likely rise of 30 per cent in the coming year for luxury goods.

Clinton's choice for CIA chief in trouble

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

LESS than a week after he announced his new CIA Director, President Clinton was forced to defend Anthony Lake yesterday over allegations of breaking government rules amid growing Republican opposition to his confirmation as head of American intelligence.

Mr Lake, the National Security Adviser, is being investigated by the Justice Department in Washington over the belated sale of shares in his personal portfolio which White House lawyers said, almost four years ago, could compromise his judgement as a top foreign policy official.

Signalling the prospect of conflict during future confirmation hearings in Congress, Arlen Specter, a Republican senator and chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, also said he had serious reservations about Mr Lake's nomination to head the CIA.

Mr Specter expressed concern that, at a time when Congress was involved in highly charged debate over a United Nations arms embargo against the former Yugoslavia, Mr Lake failed to tell Capitol Hill about a covert American decision to allow Iranian arms into Bosnia-Herzegovina. Hawks within the CIA have also questioned Mr Lake's liberal outlook: he resigned from the Nixon Administration in protest at the invasion of Cambodia.

Asked about Mr Lake, President Clinton leapt to his defence yesterday. "The counsel's office and others reviewed the facts of this case and we believe that it is not a disqualification [for confirmation]," Mr Clinton said.

Couple's au pair kept as a slave

BY QUENTIN LETTS

A COUPLE from Florida admitted holding their au pair girl in slavery and torturing her to keep quiet and work.

In what civil rights groups claim was a far from isolated case, Kishin Mahtani, 42, and his wife, Shashi Gobindram, 34, both from India, pleaded guilty to harbouring Francesca Ekka, an illegal alien, and forcing her into "involuntary servitude". She worked 16-hour days for little or no pay and was brutally treated.

Miss Ekka, 23, who arrived from India to look after the couple's two children, was so frightened that she would not leave their house in prosperous Miami Lakes, prosecutors said. Eventually she summoned the courage to telephone the police, saying "come help me, please".

Mahtani and his wife admitted that they took away the au pair's passport, burnt her address book and stole any mail she received. They burnt her with an iron, threatened to tie her up with a dog's lead and twisted her ears until they bled. When she was found by police, the au pair had welts and swellings on her face and body.

She was punished for any domestic accidents and was regularly driven in to the countryside at night and abandoned for several hours, "in what seemed like a jungle", as retribution for perceived misdeeds. After a few hours the Mahtanis would return to collect her.

Mahtani, who owns an import-export business, will be sentenced in March with his wife. They face up to five years in prison and fines of up to $250,000 (£151,500).

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Kenya crippled by 'brutal and corrupt' judiciary

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

SEXUAL torture, rape, beatings, mob killings and massive corruption have become hallmarks of Kenya's judicial system over the past half decade, according to a damning report on the former British colony by the London-based African Rights.

The human rights organisation says in a book by Lucy Hannan published yesterday that "Kenyan justice is corrupt and abusive; its machinery and ethos have collapsed".

Until the 1990s, Kenya's courts were seen by opposition figures and government officials as the one part of the administrative system that was beyond excessive political influence and free of corruption. But Ms Hannan's book, *Kenya, Shadow of Justice*, shatters that illusion and gives a warning of violence and chaos in the run-up to next year's general elections.

"Rather than turning to formal mechanisms for justice, the average man and woman live in fear of it — from the routine violence of the police, through the corruption and inefficiency of the courts, to the congested prisons. The profound crisis of faith in the justice system is, increasingly, leading people to use alternatives — often resorting to the horrifying violence of mob justice," Ms Hannan says.

No one who has watched the inexorable decline in personal security, and standards of services in Nairobi, the capital, could disagree with Ms Hannan. Mob killings are an almost daily occurrence.

> ❛ The crisis of faith is leading people to use alternatives — often resorting to the violence of mob justice ❜

Jacqueline Wangui Ngunja, wife of G. G. Njengi — a political activist sentenced in 1993 to four years for attacking a police station, an offence that was never on his charge sheet — was arrested in 1992 by ten plainclothes policemen of the Kenyan CID. She was taken to their headquarters with Lydia, her teenage daughter. Four policemen held her down while a female officer sexually abused her.

She was told she would be shot if she did not sign a confession saying that she had been hiding firearms in her house. She refused, was charged, released and rearrested. For the next two years she was forced to appear in court every fortnight for a "mention".

Such stories are commonplace among the leading opposition political groups, but they have become routine for ordinary Kenyans, as have the "extrajudicial executions" of suspected criminals on the streets.

Two years of research in Kenya also revealed that the Government of the Kenya African National Union now ranks as one of the most venal and corrupt on the continent. Last year, 1,798 prisoners died in filthy jails, ten times more than a decade before.

Even hospitals are no longer considered a sanctuary. Ms Hannan details several cases in which former patients are held by force as indentured labour in sanitoriums after failing to pay medical bills.

Already reeling from a plunge in tourist numbers from 830,000 in 1994 to 600,000 last year (including about 40,000 Britons), Kenya's tour operators are braced for another bad year.

Western diplomats, led by the British, have been impressed with Kenya's efforts at fiscal probity, which have reined in inflation to less than 7 per cent and maintained a growth rate of 3.5 per cent or more. Earlier this year, the West agreed to release $800 million in balance of payments support, frozen since 1990, in an attempt to force President Moi down the road to multiparty democracy.

Apartheid minister applies for amnesty

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

ADRIAAN VLOK, the former Law and Order Minister, became the first apartheid-era minister to seek amnesty from South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. His application came ahead of tomorrow's deadline.

Mr Vlok was implicated in human rights violations in October when General Johan van der Merwe, a former police commissioner, told the commission that the order to bomb the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in 1988 was given by Mr Volk on presidential orders from P. W. Botha.

The allegation appears to have forced Mr Vlok to break ranks with the old National Party high command. So far Mr Botha and his successor, F. W. de Klerk have refused to apply. But General van der Merwe and 50 former police generals have done so, as well as more than 300 from the African National Congress and 600 from the Azanian People's Liberation Army.

RICARDO MAZALAN/AP PHOTO

A Mai-Mai boy soldier north of Goma. The Mai-Mai have now joined Tutsi rebels

Hutu militia herds refugees out of camp in Tanzania

BY SAM KILEY

ABOUT 90,000 Hutu refugees from Rwanda have fled a camp in northwest Tanzania to avoid being returned to Rwanda to face trial.

United Nations officials blame the exodus on intimidation of the refugees by the *Interahamwe* — the Rwandan Hutu militia responsible for the 1994 massacres of a million Tutsis and moderate Hutus in Rwanda. The militia is believed to be herding the refugees away from the reach of the forces of the new Tutsi-led Government in Rwanda as well as to establish military bases in Zambia.

The UN's World Food Programme (WFP) said the refugees left Lumasi camp, northwest Tanzania, after the Dar es Salaam Government ordered that all refugees should return home by the end of the year. Lumasi had provided refuge for 113,000 people. In all there were 542,000 Hutu refugees in Tanzania.

Julie Johnson, of the WFP, said the camp was 80 per cent empty yesterday. She added that the WFP warehouse had been looted.

The looting of food stocks signals that the *Interahamwe*, who have controlled Lumasi and all other refugee camps in Tanzania, Zaire and Burundi for the last two years, are planning a long trek. About 560 Hutu refugees have arrived in Uganda, while others are believed to be marching towards Kenya, which has harboured some of the most notorious leaders of the massacres.

There is still confusion about the whereabouts of tens of thousands of refugees who fled camps in eastern Zaire after the Tutsi Banyamulenge rebels launched retaliatory attacks last month. The Hutus had instigated Zaireans to turn on the Banyamulenge.

Yesterday the Banyamulenge, who now control a swath of territory about 300 miles long from north to south in eastern Zaire, including the main towns of Goma, Bukavu and Uvira, declared a unilateral ceasefire because of pressure from the West. The Banyamulenge, who want to topple the ailing President Mobutu, however, gave a warning that the war "can continue if there is not a clear indication from the international community and the gang in power in Kinshasa to say they are willing to surrender or to start negotiations."

New reports claim that the Mai-Mai have now joined the Banyamulenge rebels. Kinshasa accuses Uganda and Rwanda of helping the rebels.

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Peace process in peril as Israeli settlers are buried

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Middle East peace process came close to collapse yesterday as a defiant Israel pledged to expand Jewish settlements further in response to the murder of two settlers by Arab terrorists and as Palestinians pledged more attacks against settlers they termed "invaders".

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, delivered an impassioned promise at the funeral of Etta Tzur, 42, and her son, Ephraim, 12, to strengthen the Jewish presence in the occupied West Bank. His predecessor as Likud Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, called for an end to the already deadlocked talks with the Palestinians. "There is nothing to talk about," Mr Shamir said.

Yoel Tzur, the bereaved settler who survived the drive-by ambush on Wednesday, pointed to a barren hillside on occupied land near the settlement of Beit El, where the burial took place, and demanded that 1,000 Jewish homes be built there. He described Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, as a "corrupt villain". Ariel Sharon, the former war hero and Cabinet minister who delivered the hawkish eulogy, said that Israel's supposed peace partner was "a war criminal by any law".

The anger, hatred and frustration caused by Wednesday's ambush — the first incident of its kind since Mr Netanyahu came to power — was as great as any I have witnessed among Jews in the past three years. "For any Jewish blood spilt, 1,000 Jewish families will come here to live," Pinhas Wallerstein, head of the Council of Jewish Settlements, promised.

Netanyahu: he chaired emergency meetings

The council, one of the outspoken supporters of Mr Netanyahu in the May election, said that if the Government did not take a sufficiently "Zionist response" within 24 hours it would take action of its own. Members said that this would involve the unilateral establishment of at least one new Jewish settlement in "Judaea and Samaria" (the biblical names for the West Bank region).

Such was the devastating effect of the attack on a Government that swept to power promising voters "peace with security" that Mr Netanyahu cut short a desert holiday to chair emergency security briefings, and his defence and foreign ministers joined at least 2,500 Jews at the funeral.

The Prime Minister distanced himself from his Labour predecessors by praising the settlers — who number about 144,000 among 2.2 million Palestinians — as "pioneers and heroes of our time". Those who heard him speak had no doubt that he intended to back his pledge of boosting settlement further than he already has.

"Our first answer to these murderers and animals is that the Government and people of Israel will stay here, build here and live here," he said, speaking on land conquered from Jordan in 1967 and regarded by many Jews as Israel's biblical inheritance. "We will remember Etta and Ephraim with every house we build, every road we pave, every family we raise."

As the woman and boy were laid to rest, the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by Georges Habash, the veteran leftwinger, called for more such attacks. "The building of Jewish housing units in [occupied] east Jerusalem and the expansion of settlement-building clearly means that Israel is beating the drums of war and preparing for more aggressions against the Palestinian people and the Arab nations," Maher al-Taher, the group's spokesman, said.

Yesterday an Israeli shot and killed a Palestinian worker in the southern town of Kiryat Gat, saying he feared that the Arab, who worked for a neighbour, was trying to break into his house.

REUTER

Etta Tzur and her son, Ephraim, 12, who were buried together yesterday

Only thaw can save reindeer

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

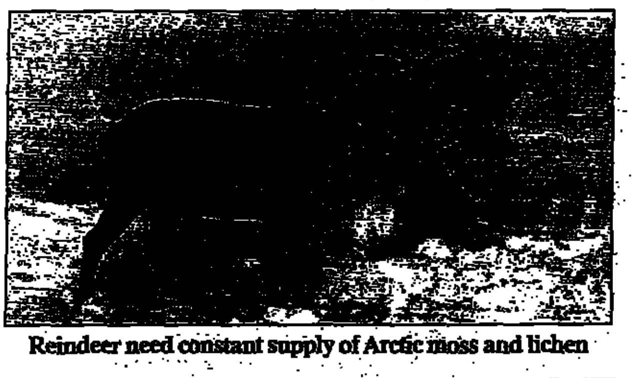
ONLY a freak thaw can save thousands of reindeer which face starvation in one of Russia's most remote regions.

More than 4,500 reindeer have died already, and up to 30,000 are at risk in the northeastern Chukotskiy region, after heavy rains followed by freezing conditions covered their traditional winter grazing with ice.

Paul Fryer, a reindeer expert at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, says that the reindeer eat only Arctic moss and lichen. "Air-dropping supplies of Arctic moss is simply not an option. Absolutely no one has vast stores of moss and lichen, and these are not things that one could just go out and harvest."

Airlifting the reindeer out of the frozen wastes was also "simply not feasible", as the cost would be prohibitive. In any case, Mr Fryer said, "if an airlift were to be considered, the first priority, naturally, would be to rescue the Chukchi herders. If the reindeer are starving and in dire straits, think of how the people who tend to them must be."

Only a major thaw will save the reindeer from death, Mr Fryer believes. Anything else would require far too much money.


Reindeer need constant supply of Arctic moss and lichen

Swiss bank to open secret gold archive

THE Swiss National Bank is expected to announce today that it will "go public" about its gold trading during the Second World War, when it acquired large quantities of gold from the German Reichsbank (Michael Evans writes).

Crucial documents on the Swiss National Bank's gold policy between 1939 and 1945 have been stored in the bank's archives. After accusations that the German gold came from Nazi-occupied countries, the bank is today expected to say that the records will be made available to the public.

Sinatra 'too ill to sing'

New York: Frank Sinatra is "in very poor health" and will never perform again, the *New York Post* reported yesterday. "He will never sing in public again," a source close to the singer's family told the *Post*. "He's in very poor health and it's only a question of how long he will live. He cannot sing any more." Last month Sinatra was in hospital for more than a week for what was said to be a pinched nerve. *(AP)*

Lesbian in asylum plea

Los Angeles: A lesbian, Alla Pitcherskaia, who fled Russia in 1992 and has been living in San Francisco, is appealing for asylum on the ground that she would be forced to go into an institution and have electric shock treatment if deported to her homeland (Giles Whittell writes). She says she was beaten by police because of her work for gay groups.

Debut film wins prize

Paris: France's top film award, the Louis Delluc prize, went to *Will It Be A White Christmas?*, an unsentimental look at a farming family struggling against violence and poverty in France. Directed by Sandrine Veysset, 28, the film — her first — won a special jury prize at the Cannes festival and earned a "best actress" award for Dominique Reymond. *(AP)*

Boeing inspection

Seattle: The Federal Aviation Administration has ordered US airlines to inspect their later-model Boeing 747s for cracks in a fuel tank. Similar defects have been found in earlier models, but the FAA did not extend its directive to 747-100s, like TWA Flight 800 which crashed near New York in July. *(AP)*

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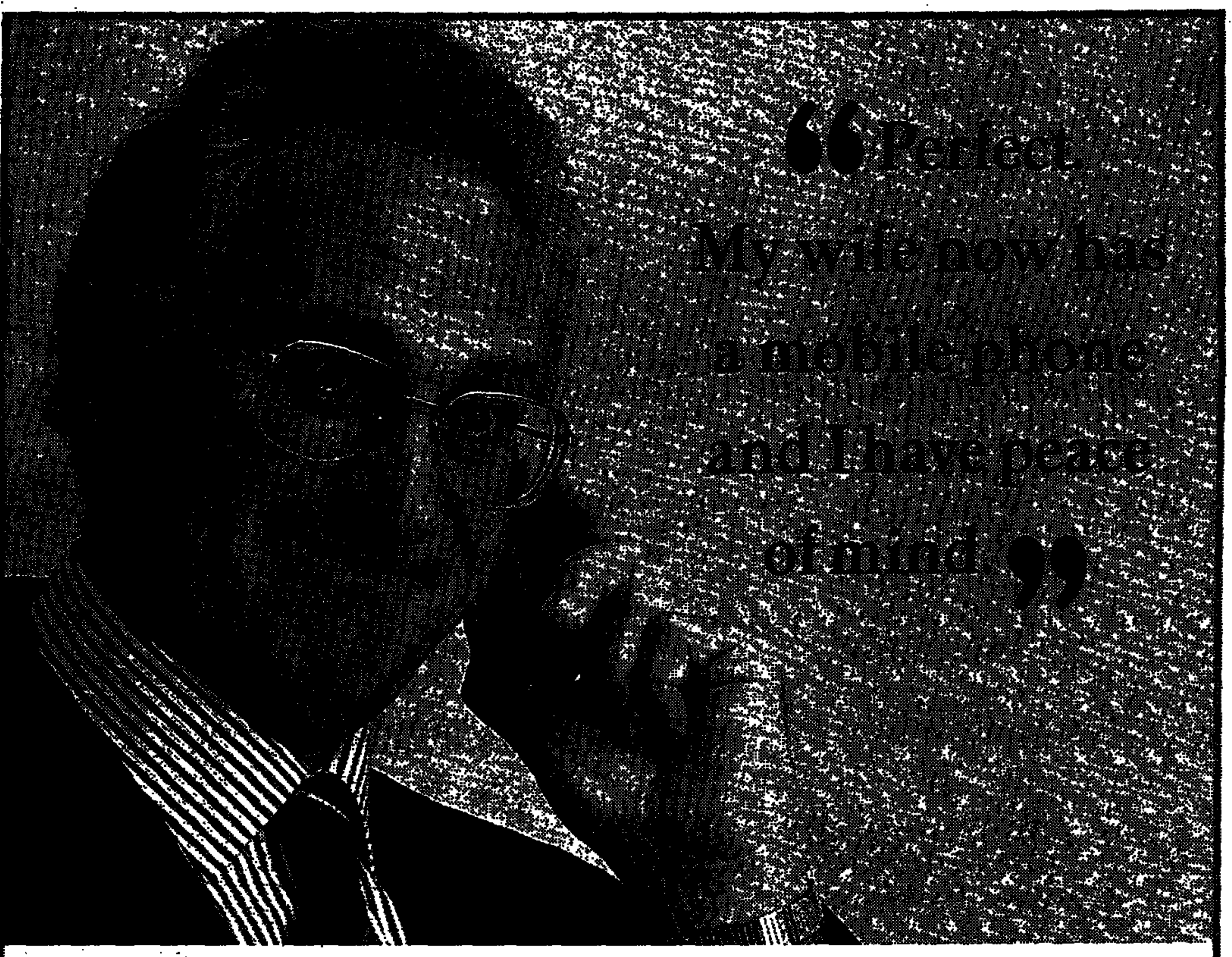

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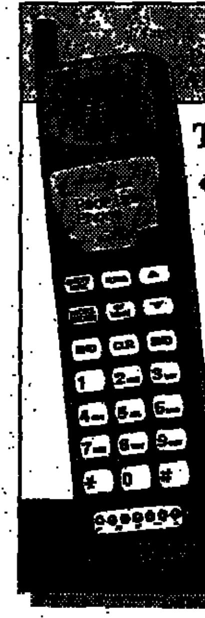

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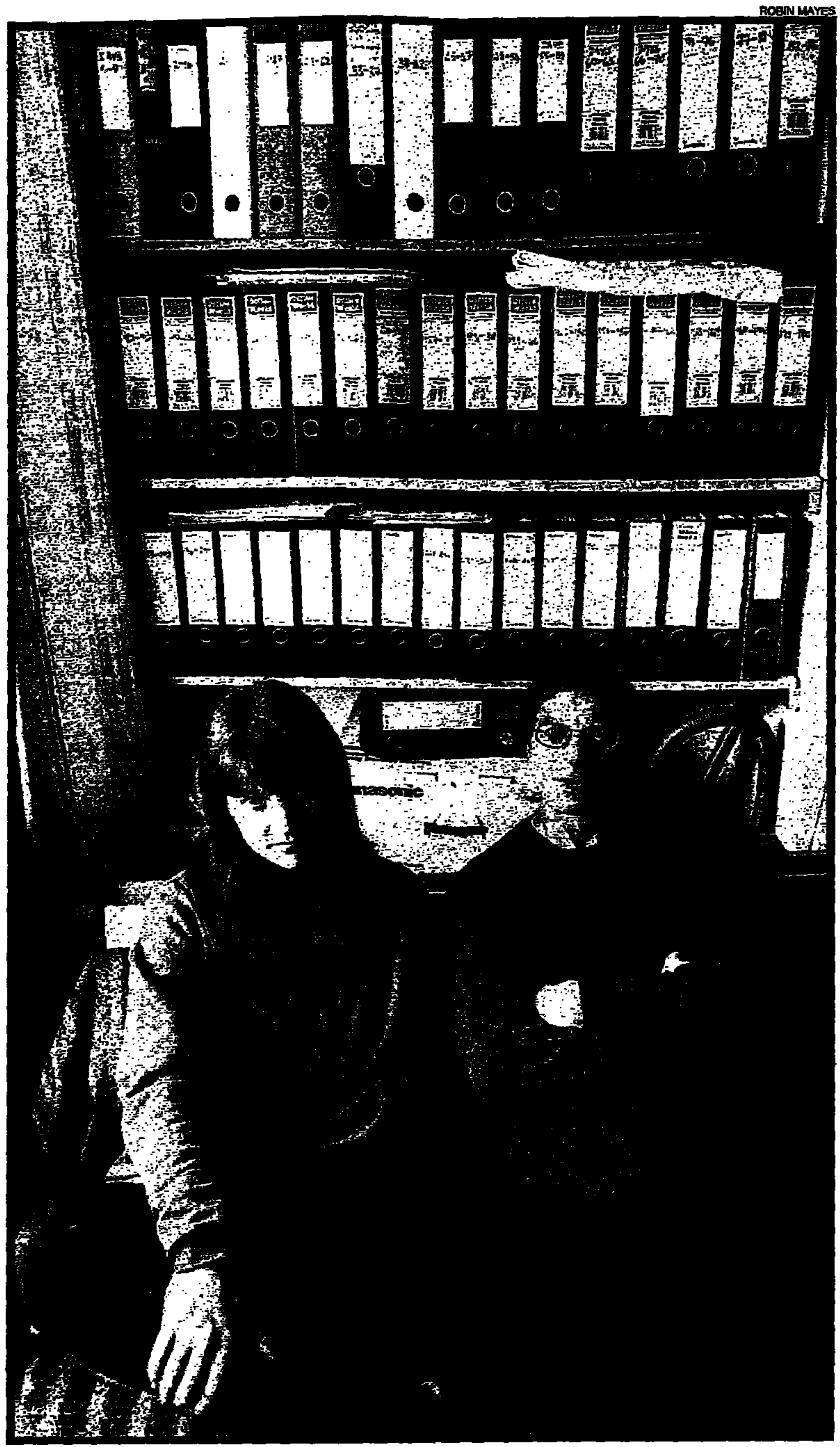


Helen Steel and David Morris believe that their battle represents a moral victory whatever the verdict

Trial that's made a meal of it

Carol Midgley reports on Britain's longest-ever trial, in which two individuals took on the might of McDonald's

Glance inside the panelled walls of Court 35 at the Royal Courts of Justice today and you will sense the unmistakable, if restrained, whiff of celebration.

After 314 days in which hundreds of witnesses have given evidence and 40,000 documents and 20,000 pages of transcripts have been shuffled back and forth across the benches, the longest trial in British history draws to a close this evening.

For the legal team representing the McDonald's Corporation it means an early Christmas break and a gargantuan sigh of relief that, bar Mr Justice Bell's judgment early next year, "McLibel: The Trial" is finally over. For David Morris and Helen Steel; the penniless, denim-clad campaigners who distributed leaflets criticising McDonald's food, practices and environmental policy and were swiftly sued for defamation, it means freedom. For the first time in two and a half years they can wake up and not have to think about fries, polystyrene burger trays and the corporate clown Ronald McDonald.

From the moment they decided to fight one of the most powerful multinational giants in the world instead of tugging their forelocks and apologising, Morris, 42, and Steel, 32, effectively gave up any semblance of normal life.

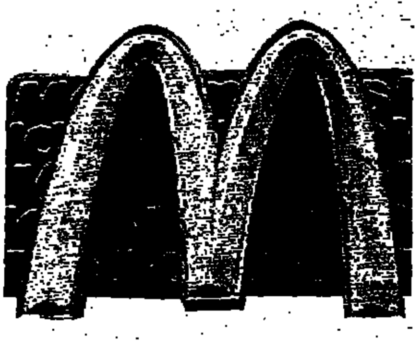
Forced to represent themselves in court (libel cases do not qualify for legal aid) they have spent their days pitted against the eminent libel QC Richard Rampton, for McDonald's, and their evenings and weekends in preparation for the next day's hearing, poring over international faxes about rainforests, corn seed or battery hens, untrained, unadvised, unwaged — the ultimate David and Goliath battle.

Win or lose, Morris and Steel now believe that they have at least won the moral battle. They have, they say, put McDonald's ethics and practices on trial for the first time and let the public judge for themselves whether the organisation is as oppressive as they claim.

"It will be a weird feeling when we walk out," says Steel, whose father was a union activist from Lancashire. "It has been an incredibly stressful experience — the pressure has been relentless because we haven't the resources and back-up team they have had, but there is no way we regret it. I feel very positive about the whole thing. People should ask themselves how we managed to get this far.

"Of course there are loads of ways I would rather have spent the last few years of my life, like climbing mountains or working in the countryside, but I was always taught to stand up to things I didn't believe were right."

The former agriculture student, gardener and voluntary worker met Morris, an ex-postman, in a Haringey community action group in the mid-Eighties and via an allotment plot they used to share. Both political activists, their friendship grew while picketing during the miners' strike and they



became members of London Greenpeace, an environmental and civil rights group which targeted, among other organisations, McDonald's. Five members were issued with writs, three of whom apologised. Steel and Morris refused.

She admires him for his passion and resolve, he admires her for her uncompromising principles and the fact she once went on a week-long hunger strike outside Harrods over Christmas to raise money for famine relief.

One of the most common but incorrect assumptions about their alliance is that they are a "couple", who took on authority together, hand-in-hand. As they sit in Steel's groundfloor bedsit in Tottenham, north London, stacked with files and papers and decorated with crusading posters such as "Solidarity with 500 sacked Liverpool dockers", they smile wearily at the suggestion.

"We are not in a relationship, no, although a lot of people think it," says the bespectacled and teacherish-looking Morris. "I knew I wouldn't be able to take it all on on my own but I said to Helen that if she wanted to fight it I would come in with her. I'm glad I did. We are nearing the end of the 20th century and society is clearly at a crossroads.

"We do argue because we are in a very intense situation, but it's usually about the case, nothing else and it helps to clear the air. Basically we both want the same things in society so we get on."

At the time of the writs, September 1990, Morris, the son of a schoolteacher and a tallyman, was living with his then partner and their young son. The couple has since separated and he now looks after Charlie, 7, alone at their home close to Steel's in Tottenham.

"Charlie has been very patient and understanding. It has been hard because I haven't been able to give him all my attention. Children are the most vulnerable section of society. If I hadn't been in court I would be more involved in my local politics groups and parents' groups at school and play schemes because that is what counts — that is where change is really made.

"I had to bring him into court one day. The central heating at his school had broken down and I could not find a childminder for him. The judge's clerk ended up looking after him all day. He got taken into the room behind the judge's chair and felt very grand."

During the trial the "McLibel Two" have raised less than £40,000 with the help of supporters, against McDonald's legal fund of £10 million. (Richard Rampton alone is on £2,000 a day.) Morris claims income support and Steel works in the bar of a West End nightclub at weekends. Both accept £15 a week travel costs from the McLibel support campaign fund but refuse cash for themselves.

Steel says she has often grown bored in court. Morris says: "I never got bored, but it was a very long drawn-out case." Steel adds: "When it first started we weren't having any days off at all but then we realised that it wasn't sustainable. You have to have days off or you'd go mad. I would sit in the park or go out with friends, but it's always with you. We are only defending our right to free speech and to put powerful companies under scrutiny."

It was on November 1 that the trial passed its milestone of 292 days making it the longest ever. Until then the Tichborne impersonation case of 1871, which comprised a civil and criminal trial and concerned a dispute over the inheritance of the Tichborne Estate in Hampshire, held that distinction, lasting 291 days. Arthur Orton, who had falsely posed as the long-lost brother of the late Baron of Tichborne, was sentenced to two consecutive terms of imprisonment and hard labour.

If Steel and Morris lose, McDonald's has indicated that it will not be seeking damages — just a clarification of accurate facts. However, much of the damage is done. On the Internet is "McSpotlight", set up by supporters of Morris and Steel, which contains millions of words from the trial and clips of film. In its first week it was accessed 174,000 times.

In the meantime, the McLibel Two are looking forward to their first stress-free Christmas for years. Steel will stay with friends and family in Scotland, while Morris will take Charlie to The Netherlands. "It will be our first proper holiday together for four years," he says. "Charlie deserves it and I think that I need it."

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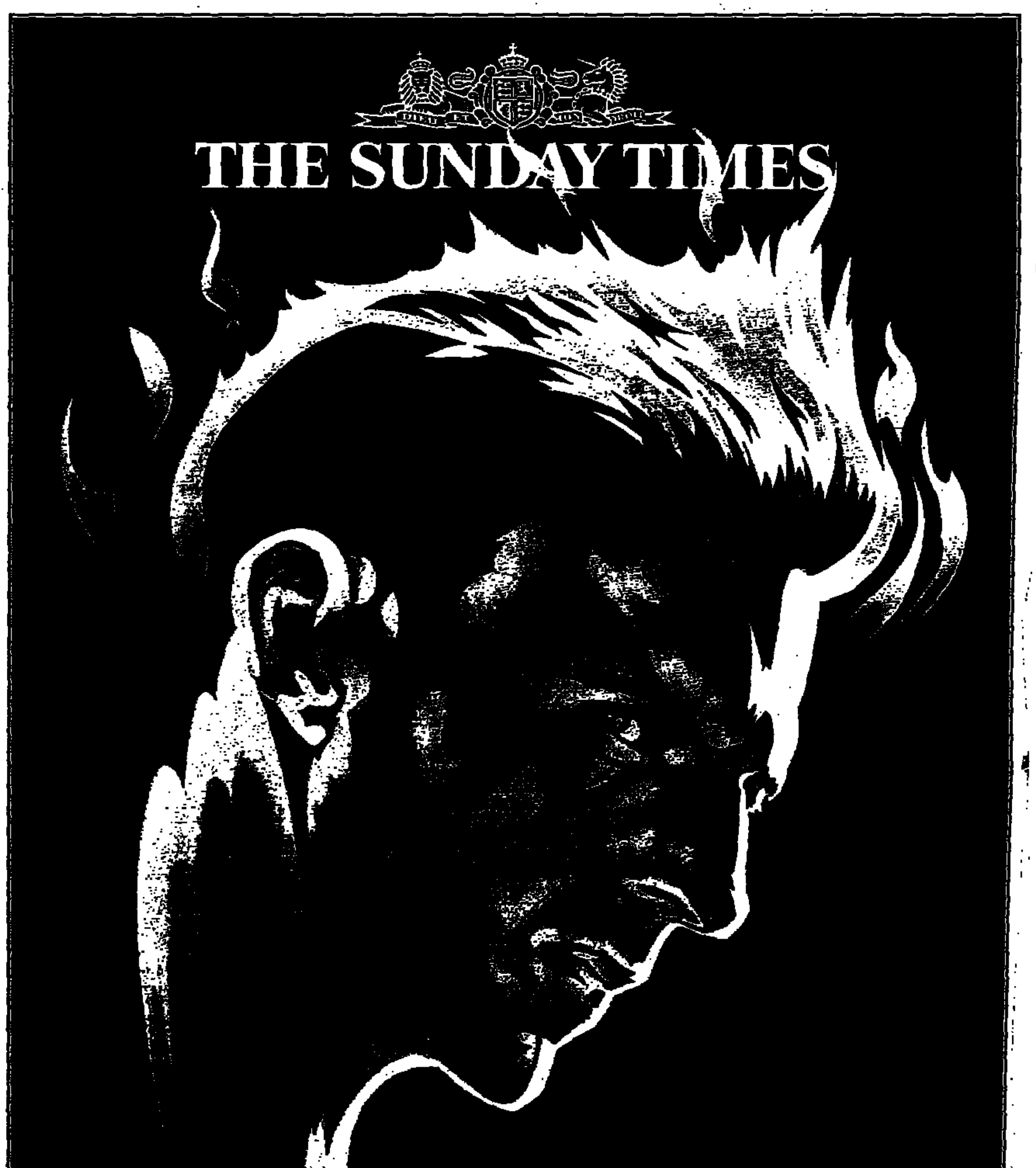

THE SUNDAY TIMES

HEARTS ON FIRE

Can Ralph Fiennes and other Brits still ignite Hollywood?

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

هكذا من الاصل

PETER NICHOLLS

Lights, camera, Snowdon: after failing his architecture exams at Cambridge, Snowdon's mother cabled him saying "on no account consider changing to photography"

A passion for idiot time

THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

In his tiny basement studio, the Earl of Snowdon cultivates the persona of the mad scientist, inventing gadgets, jokes and toys

The Earl of Snowdon famously subverts interviews by seizing on diversions. "Did you know that if you pat Marmite, it turns white? I once rang Marmite about it. A ghastly PR man came on and said (adopts E. L. Wisty voice) 'It is certainly the case that if Marmite is oscillated it will go through a process of oxidisation, which discolours the *product* ...' Johnny Dankworth is the only other person I know who is a Marmite patter."

Snowdon's stories and mimicry are much enjoyed by those who sit for him. He cultivates the *persona* of the mad scientist, indulging as often as possible in what he calls "idiot time", inventing toys, gadgets, silly jokes, any kind of escapism.

His latest album of family snaps, meticulously annotated, reflects this: here is a camp Gothic dogkennel known as the Doge's Palace he made for Maud, his daughter Frances's *spaniel; here's a spoof of Hello!* magazine; a picture of his Regent's Park aviary, transposed to his country garden ("That's what you get if you put a used film back in the camera by mistake"), a snap of *himself by a Kentish roadsign* reading "Glen Close", which he showed to Glenn Close when photographing her for *Vanity Fair* with (stuffed) dalmatian. "I love all this. I am passionate for idiot time."

He inhabits a tiny basement *studio*, under a house with so many clocks that a clock-winder comes round every Thursday. Next to his office is a tiny loo, where his awards are framed including one for *his aviary*, "The Second Best Modern Building in London".

He brandishes a picture of a domed pavilion. "What century? What country?" he asks. It's a *trompe-l'oeil* folly he has built at his house in Sussex, by *ingenious* use of plywood, breezeblocks and wire. Inside, two naked Adel Rootstein mannequins recline in 1920s deckchairs. "A folly shouldn't be at all useful," he says, "or it isn't a true folly. This was *designed* to *provide* a view while doing the washing up." Does he do much washing up? "Never stop.".

Do I recognise this postcard *of a Victorian drawing room*? It is the glorious Kensington house (open to public view) where Linley Sambourne, *Punch's* political cartoonist, Snowdon's great-grandfather, lived. As a child he found it terribly gloomy, yearning for plain white walls. Now fashion has reverted: "Our sitting *room upstairs" (where his wife* Lucy was) "is an absolute nightmare. Solid with clutter."

He shows *me* Sambourne's camera-case, which just fits Snowdon's *1950s. Rolleiflex*. Sambourne was a *pioneer* photographer: he would get his chauffeur to pose for photographs and draw from them. "Other cartoonists thought this very *mal vu*. But camera obscura *is how* Canaletto, né Canal, got his *perspectives* of the Grand Canal and the Thames."

It is 40 years since Tony Armstrong-Jones began taking pictures of actors blown up *10 feet high outside theatres* "to get people off buses and into the theatre". A sumptuous new book called *Snowdon on Stage* (with Olivier as Archie Rice, taken from the wings, on the cover) is out on Monday, and an *exhibition* at the National Theatre opens on January 13.

The pictures are absorbing. They reflect four theatrical decades (Simon *Callow* contributes an excellent essay) from stylised 1950s portraits in stage make-up, to the zany poses he now gets actors to adopt: Emma Thompson naked after the manner of *Velázquez's reclining lady*, Barry Humphries inside a commode, Simon Callow with Monet water-lilies, Alan Rickman in a kilt on the Albert Memorial, Peter Hall with a roadmender playing the gravedigger in Hamlet. John Sessions is Napoleon astride a stuffed pony "holding a frightfully *important* Ugandan stick, given to me by Mr Obote". Alan Bennett is in Windsor Great Park with four corgis — hired, Snowdon adds, at a cost of £400. "They are not *the* corgis." At any mention of his royal connection he mutters "Fasten seatbelt". His discretion is impeccable: he would be the last royal relict ever to talk to Ruby Wax.

> Mention his royal family and he says 'Fasten seatbelt'

He claims the only effect of the earldom on his career was to *stop him* taking photographs, until Mark Boxer brought him into *The Sunday Times Magazine* and "normal life". It probably made him work even harder, propelling him towards social conscience *photo-journalism (sometimes*, on assignments where reporters were given lunch, a plate would be left in the kitchen "for the photographer", until they realised who he was) and to TV documentaries with Derek Hart about old age, dwarfs, etc, for which Snowdon won two Emmy awards. *(He thought them* "vulgar" and sprayed them black.)

We walked 50 yards to his favourite restaurant, where he declared he was never interested in what he ate, *then* sent back his pheasant saying it was "a bit wonky". As we left, he had to mollify the glowering chefs. He is waspish about publishers who mis-spell names or have their letters *signed* p.p. "Dear p.p.," *he* writes back, "Do give my love to your managing director, who must be *awfully* busy." He had just been to Terry Donovan's funeral, which had reduced him to tears.

Photography claimed him when his father paid £100 for an apprenticeship to the society photographer Baron. Having coxed the Cambridge crew to victory in the 1950 Boat Race, he had failed his architecture *exams*. "My *mother* cabled saying 'on no account consider changing to photography'. But then my uncle Oliver Messel's mother was *against his* becoming a designer — until he became the most successful one in the world." He adored Messel, who introduced him to the theatrical milieu. Snowdon still has his earliest job book: 'A. Guin*ness*. Actor. Large camera.' Even today, at the theatre he looks at sets, costumes and performances, but hardly listens. "I am not a words person," he says.

We wondered on what subject his country neighbour, the ennobled Maurice Saatchi, would make his maiden *speech in the Lords. Snow*don's was about design defects in cars for the disabled.

He designed his famous wheelchair not because he had polio himself, but because his friend Quentin Crewe was *confined to an "absolutely* disastrous" Ministry of Health chair. "I thought we must do something, not as a do-goody thing but as a challenge. *Roy Thomson had kind*ly given David and Sarah two battery-operated horses: I said, 'you don't need two' and took one of them to bits." (Lord Linley says when he hankered after a toy submarine, his *father made one with a piece of* wood, a picture hook and a curtain ring.) "Anyway, I based the first prototype on that — and Perry Mason came over to launch it."

Less successful was the *Peter Pan winch he invented*, in which a disabled person could hoist himself out of bed and fly down stairs. The disabled loved it, but it is consigned to *his* "flops and disasters" file. He may walk *with a stick himself, but I* can report that Lord Snowdon is exhausting to dance with. He stands on the spot, tapping one foot and vigorously spin*ning his partner like a dervish*.

This year he was appointed Provost of the Royal College of Art. He loves the work but do I realise that the students' average age is 29? He started work at 20 and so did his son. And at *66 all he wants to do is keep on* working. As long as he can combine it with idiot time.

- *Snowdon on Stage (Pavilion, £30).*

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Cousins get the royal blessing

Joe Joseph on the must-have accessory for the new year

COUSINS! *You don't* live with them, and suddenly you can't live without them.

Having only just made negligées so fashionable *that the invitation* "don't bother dressing for dinner" now sends out a *really* relaxed message, Diana, Princess of Wales, has now also made cousins cool by putting a snap of Princes Wills and Harry with their cousins, Princesses Eugenie and Beatrice on the front of her Christmas cards.

Diana's Christmas card

With this kind of blessing, cousins, whom the most recent generation of children only saw at weddings and funerals, could become *the* must-have accessory of 1997. *Cousins faded from* our lives along with extended families, in which three generations would live in each other's pockets, creat*ing a handy source* of *play*mates, babysitters and loans. As a result of this social shift, cousins have tended to see less and less of each other over the past 30 years — unless, of course, *some special* bond *made* it seem sensible for them to be close, such as belonging to a Mafia family in Calabria.

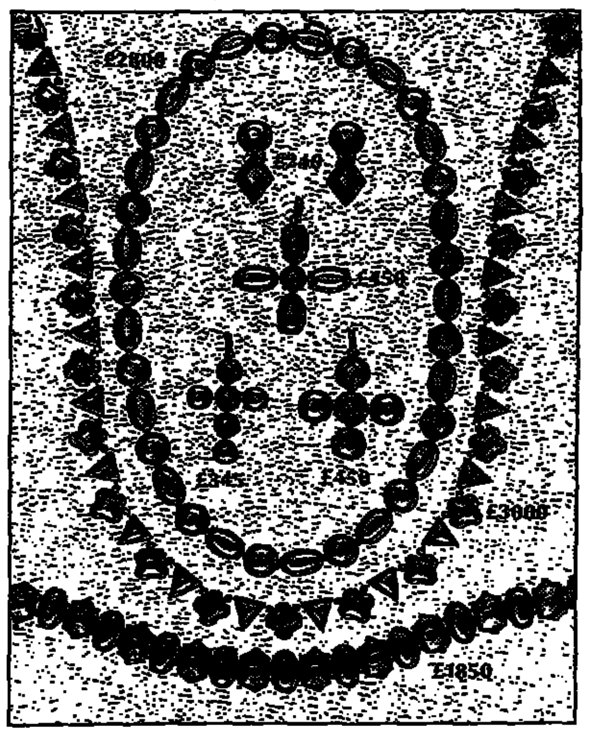
But now a rising divorce rate has thrown single parents — and their children — more deeply into the lives of their siblings and in-laws.

At the same time, a preference for smaller families — who has the money, time or energy *today to raise half a* dozen children? — has endowed cousins with a new sense of purpose.

They have become the 1990s version of brothers and sisters, with the bonus *that if you get on with them* you can even marry them — which you can only do with siblings (and even then only *on a very informal basis) in* certain *scary* backwaters of America's Deep South.

But since they are *not* your brother or sister, cous*ins can also provide a useful* refuge from your sibling family, especially if your sibling is, say, Roger Clinton, Bill's brother, a reformed drug *addict* whose US secret service codename is Headache. Or Billy Carter, President Jimmy's brother, who registered as an agent for the Libyan Government.

OF COURSE, there is a downside to cousins. "Every man," said H.L. Mencken, "sees in his relations, and especially in his cousins, a series of grotesque carica*tures of himself." This* is why seeing your cousins is both warming and chilling: they are a vision of possibilities of what you might have been, which is fine if you're Paul Newman's cousin. *Less reassuring if you're* Gazza's.



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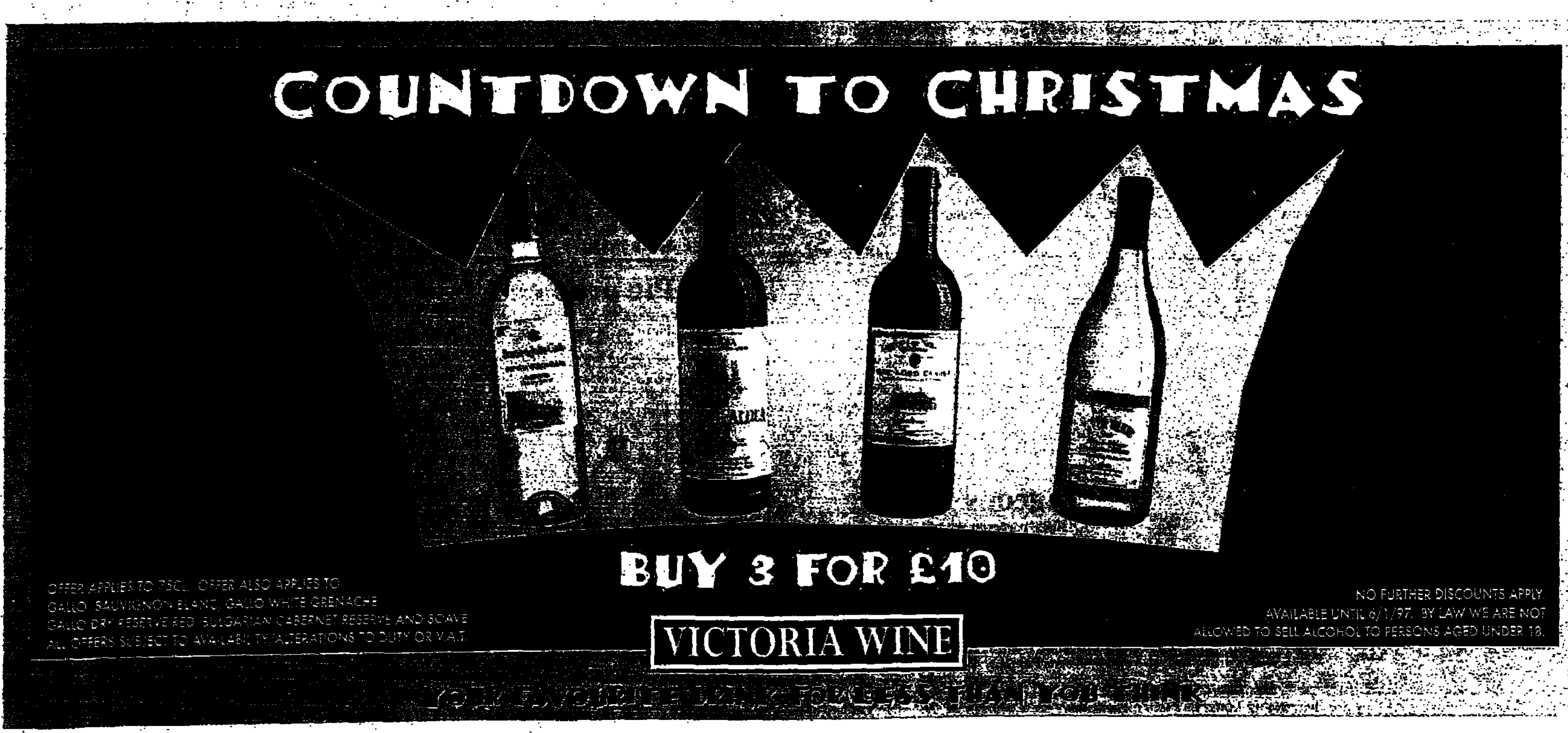

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Paris wants Britain in a euro zone

Hervé de Charette says Europe needs faster integration now

We are on the eve of momentous decisions for the future of Europe. The post-war era is over. The Continent is no longer divided. To the east, the enthusiasm of the early years after 1989 has abated, and tough tasks lie ahead. Economic competition is sharpening on a planetary scale.

The French historian Fernand Braudel reminds us that "Europe is scarcely visible on a map of the world". We shall shortly have several opportunities to make Europe a force to be reckoned with, to lay the groundwork for a stable Europe founded upon solidarity. France and Great Britain must grasp them together.

France, like Britain, warmly supports the candidature of the Central and East European states for EU membership. The European enterprise will become fully meaningful once they stand at our side. My Government has proposed a European conference to maintain a dialogue with these countries during the accession negotiations.

But enlargement must not entail any dilution of the spirit of the original Community, nor should it paralyse its institutions. So we intend to grasp this opportunity to reform the EU in depth: the organs designed for six no longer always function efficiently with 15 members. Merely tinkering with the rules would be a step backwards. That is why France wants to restore a balanced voting system in the Council, cut Commission staff and reinforce its President's authority, before enlargement.

France's prime ambition remains the pursuit of EU integration. Europe is much more than a conjunction of interests or a free-trade area. We quite understand that not all countries are simultaneously ready to move forward. But we place a high premium on the freedom of those that do want to forge ahead. Consequently, with our German partners, we have proposed a mechanism of "enhanced co-operation" to enable certain states in the EU to take initiatives in which others cannot, or do not wish to, participate for the time being. We expect real progress to be made at the Dublin European Council.

Monetary union will also be at the centre of discussions in Dublin and during the coming year. My Government, which is pursuing a resolute policy in favour of the euro, is pleased to see that several member states share a similar commitment. We must establish an exchange-rate mechanism bringing all the member states into a euro stability zone and demonstrating the Union's monetary stability. Our businesses would gain from the absence of competitive devaluation.

Nor should Europe's citizens lose out. We want to propose a model of society in which the market is regulated, but not hindered. France has therefore submitted a social memorandum proposing a minimum standard of protection for workers, without causing damaging distortions in the single market. Here, too, our ambition is to achieve significant results in Dublin.

Finally, France, having observed with interest the remarkable work of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, wants to make Europe more democratic, by giving national Parliaments a greater role alongside the European Parliament. My Government will endeavour to reinforce the concept of subsidiarity, which is still too vague.

France and Britain share the same ambitious view of Europe's missions in the field of security and defence. Europe must have the capacity to make its voice heard in external policy. My Government attaches great importance to ensuring that this inter-governmental conference results in the development of a genuine European security and defence identity. We see the European Council as the keystone of this structure, with the Western European Union (WEU) as its operational military arm, able to draw on Nato's resources. In particular, we want included in the treaty the prospect of incorporating the WEU into the EU. This will be at the forefront of our minds during our coming WEU Presidency.

In line with what the French and British both argued for in Berlin last year, new prospects are opening up within the Atlantic Alliance. We are very keen to ensure that the admission of new members will be detrimental to no one.

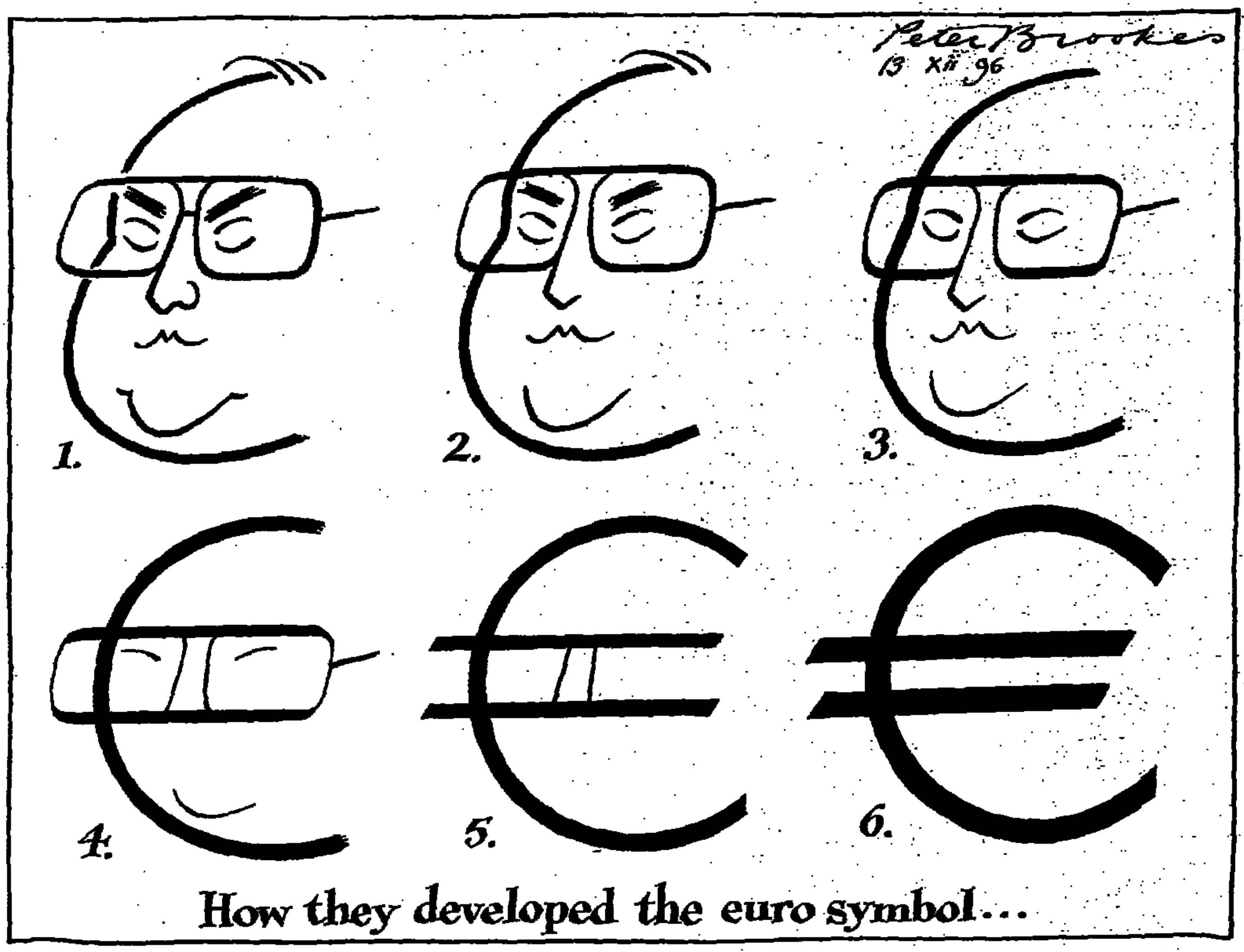
Nato's enlargement affords Europeans a unique opportunity to work towards a European defence with a significant capability. My Government has boldly gambled that the Alliance is sufficiently determined to regenerate itself to give fuller recognition to the EU as a political entity. In a spirit of wholehearted co-operation with our partners, especially the Americans, we will consider whether the European defence identity is becoming a reality within Nato. If that condition is satisfied, France will gladly resume its full position within Nato.

The recent decision to develop Franco-British co-operation in the naval sphere is a welcome sign that Europeans are taking their security in hand. And our two Governments, conscious of the proximity of their positions, have demonstrated their reliability through commitments on the ground, especially in Bosnia.

Finally, this global approach needs to be completed by a European policy on armaments. By combining our technological strengths, we shall lay the foundations of a genuine European defence and withstand international competition. The British presence in the new Joint Armaments Co-operation Organisation and Western European Armaments Organisation, forerunner of the European Arms Agency, is invaluable.

France has great ambitions for Europe. She knows that Britain will not shirk her responsibilities. Only by making a success of the European project will we be able to keep alight the flame that, down the centuries, has made our nations great.

The author is the French Foreign Minister.



How they developed the euro symbol...

No room down under

A wicked wizard in Oz has devised an entry form of diabolical nosiness

Bernard Levin

I have many times visited Australia, on business or pleasure or both at once (and in Australia the two merge, so open and welcoming are Australia's people), and for many years I noticed that the visitors' entry form was much the same as New Zealand's, both of them being the most simple and homely document. Of course, I realised that the generosity of an entry into Australia mirrored the openness of its peoples; Australians *are* open and immediately friendly. But at some point, something happened that changed the pattern. No, the Australians have not become sour and mean; they are as open and friendly as they have always been. So what has changed? The answer is not the people, it is pieces of paper.

The first change I noticed was that New Zealand's entry form was still roughly the same as it had been, but the Australian one had changed somewhat, and changed considerably for the worse.

To start with, the document needed to enter Australia — and this, you must understand, is only the "Application to visit Australia for tourism or other recreational activities" is five full large pages, or ten columns, or 11ft of bumpf.

It starts most charmingly, saying, "Do not buy your tickets or finalise your arrangements before a visa is granted, unless we ask you to provide evidence of confirmed arrangements". That's not even getting into gear; we are idiots from the start, viz: "You must answer all questions and write neatly in BLOCK LETTERS" and "You must answer all questions honestly and completely".

Shucks. Try this: "The information provided might also be disclosed to agencies who are authorised to receive information relating to border control, health assessment, law enforcement, education, payment of pensions and benefits, refugees, taxation, and review of decisions."

Now, it is obvious that few countries want people from other countries who cannot support themselves financially and show no sign of trying to do so. Visitors are welcome — certainly Australia makes them welcome — but not if they make clear that they are going to live off the indigenous, hard-working citizens. (Andrew Symonds the English cricketer had a different problem, but he has decided to go back and become Symonds the Australian cricketer.)

But surely Australia shouldn't get the heebie-jeebies if someone finds that someone else has landed with nothing but fourpence and a lollipop? No, indeed, but we are now not discussing Australia and her great peoples, we are discussing the dreadful Prodnose and his pages and pages of whining. Try this: "The criterion 'adequate funds' may be satisfied by showing personal bank statements, money transfer receipts, pay slips, audited accounts, taxation records or cash in hand, depending on the amount of money represented, the number of persons to support, the type of activities planned and the length stay sought."

Then sex raises its head — I knew it would. Try this for impudence: "Marital status — select one box which best describes your current situation — Married, Engaged, Divorced, Widowed, Never married [that's me folks], Separated but not divorced."

And then, "Why do you want to visit Australia?" The answer should be "Well, certainly not to meet you, you pimply prat". Next, Dr Goebbels asks "Do you have any relatives, friends or contacts you will visit in Australia?", and don't believe it when he says that it might be a help if a visitor should be injured or ill, because that bit has already been taken care of.

It hots up now. "Are you currently employed?" Again, it is nothing but impudence, because of course the real questions have been dealt with. But Prodnose wants more, much more, and he snaps: "Your current occupation?", "Name or person of company who employs you?", "Address of employer?", "Employer's telephone number?" (Yes, our little worm demands the telephone number of every person who touches this form — not just those actually visiting.)

And now Prodnose wants to know: "How long have you been employed by this employer?", "How much leave has been approved by your employer for the time you wish to visit Australia?", "Has your employer agreed that you will still have a job when you return from Australia?" I don't know about that, but if the employer is of sturdy form, a punch on the nose would most fitting. Now you can almost see Prodnose reciting the next bit, which goes like this: "Have you or any children included in this application ever had, or currently have, tuberculosis or any serious disease (including mental illness), condition or disability?", and of course Prodnose has seen to it that the subsidiary question is: "Is the disease likely to be a cost to the Australian community?"

But of course, I am only marking time before the toughest of all the No/Yes questions: "Have you, or any children included in this application

- ● Been convicted of a crime or any offence in any country?
- ● Been acquitted of any criminal or other offence on the grounds of mental illness, insanity or unsoundness of mind?
- ● Been deported from any country?
- ● Left any country voluntarily prior to the execution of a deportation order?
- ● Been excluded from or required to leave any country?
- ● Ever had an application for entry to Australia refused or a visa cancelled?
- ● Been involved in any activities that would represent a risk to Australian security?
- ● Ever committed, or been involved in the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity or human rights?

And finally — you guessed it —

- ● Any outstanding debts to the Australian Government?

Now as a matter of fact I have to say yes to several of these items. No, I have not been acquitted of any criminal or other offence "on the grounds of mental illness, insanity and or unsoundness of mind", but I *have* "been required to leave another country", indeed several times and several countries. And before Prodnose starts to scream the place down, let him know that I am proud of those times when I was ejected. For the first of these chuckings-out were from South Africa, when it was still in the foul days of apartheid when black men were thought of as animals; and the other ejection was from what was then called the Soviet Union, which was then ruled by the hideous criminal called Brezhnev, who presided with savage brutality.

Now *please* understand that these ten columns of bumpf were not created by any of the Australians I have met or indeed heard of, and I am sure that any decent Australian, shown these papers, would be horrified. The trouble is, that these papers are *not* shown to Australians. Why should they be? After all, these papers concern only the entry to Australia for *non*-Australians, and have nothing to do with Australian rules or orders, and I should think that only one in a thousand native Australians has even seen them.

But that brings me back to those daft and offensive ten columns of — well, of what? I shall tell you. These words were put together by a committee — no single human being could have devised them. The members of the committee began to put in ideas, whereat other members put in more ideas, whereupon more and more members got more and more ideas, and after a very long time, a *very* long time, the 11ft of bumpf saw the light of darkness.

But this is Australia! Australia, the country I love next only to my own! Australia, the country with its ease and kindness, its bravery and laughter, its beer and its shakehands, its music and its theatre, its generosity and its understanding, its quiet suburbs with their curtains and its marvellous contempt for its MPs, its immense size and incredible landscape, its unique accent, and its glorious seafront with its glorious, thrice glorious Sydney Opera House — assuredly the most striking operahouse in the world.

Come, come, Australia. You can do better than this. No, I am not going to say that all frontiers should be abolished, and that anyone should be able to go anywhere, anyhow, with or without money. But I *am* saying that the document which greets non-Australian would-be visitors is a smudge on the great name of Australia. And if you agree, let me help to pile up those shoddy documents into a huge mound, and let me strike the first match. And let Prodnose get the first smudge.

Use the veto in Dublin

Euro-realism unites us, says

John Redwood

This week's two-day debate in the Commons has shown that Europe is the main concern of many Conservative MPs, and revealed a strong wish for Britain to offer leadership for the right kind of Europe. What other subjects in the House cause a queue to form? The Prime Minister may feel there is no light at the end of the Euro tunnel. The European issue is occluding the economic recovery.

Beyond the fevered atmosphere of Westminster the party, the Tory party in the country is united as rarely before, and as on no other issue, when it comes to the mighty questions of Europe. As I talk to constituency Conservative associations I ask them some basic questions about Europe. I ask if the common fisheries policy is working in Britain's interests. No one thinks it is. I ask them if it is right that we can sell our beef to ourselves but are banned from selling it to willing buyers anywhere else in the world. No one defends that. I ask them if they would like to send more tax revenue to Brussels to spend on our behalf. No one wants to.

I ask them if the European Court should have the power to overturn Acts of Parliament. No one thinks it should. And I ask them if they want Brussels and Frankfurt to have more power over our economy. No one has ever said "Yes". The unity is impressive, tangible, passionate. It is based on common sense and instinct. It is held equally sincerely by businessmen trading in France and Germany and by pensioners worried about their savings. If I ask about gun control, corporal punishment or school budgets there is no such unanimity.

The Prime Minister should see this strong belief in Britain's right to govern itself as a strength in the party. It invites him to renegotiate Britain's relationship and role in Europe. The party wants us to stay in a common market, but say no to a common government. The Government itself has already said that we need the beef ban lifted, that we need higher quotas for British fishermen to fish in British waters, that we should stop the budget ceiling being lifted to control the amount of money we send to Brussels, and that we need to limit the powers of the Court. Each of these statements has been made in response to a specific problem. It is now time to bring them all together and seek a better deal.

Some say that this would not be possible. They belittle Britain, implying that we have no clout or strength to bargain for such a settlement. They say fatalistically that France and Germany are the main players, and that we have only a part in the crowd scene with no good lines to deliver. I hope the Prime Minister can prove them wrong.

In the Dublin negotiations, Britain has a lot of good cards. The members keenest on currency union want our agreement to a regulation legalising the euro — a different currency from the ecu proposed by treaty. We should veto that regulation unless we are given something in return. Britain also has a veto over the stability pact. We should veto that if progress is not made on our requirements. France and Germany wish us to agree a whole series of treaty amendments to drive the European Union towards political union. We can veto each and every one of them. We should say we will do so, unless we obtain satisfaction over limiting the power of the European Court. In many cases we will also have to warn that even if we relent in due course, once we have secured what we want, we will never be bound by many of their amendments. We will always exclude ourselves from common borders or a common foreign and defence policy. We should set out a positive vision of a Europe of nations, based on freer trade, fewer regulations and less government interference. We should put jobs before constitutions.

Other countries privately resent the way France and Germany meet before every summit and issue instructions to the rest on what to do. Our diplomacy must be geared to understanding their feelings, and building alliances where we can. But it is the veto that is crucial to success. If France and Germany can occasionally be isolated, it will be a better Community than if they drive events the whole time.

Some people say that Cabinet unity is too fragile to permit such a course of action. I do not agree. The Home Secretary does not want to lose our border controls. Presumably the Foreign Secretary does not want to pass his responsibility over to a committee of ministers in Brussels. The Defence Secretary does not want the British Army to be sent into action after a majority vote we have lost. The Agriculture Minister wants a better deal on beef and fish. The Chancellor has agreed that it must be beyond doubt that no further controls or burdens will be placed on the British economy unless we decide to go into a single currency. It is time for the Cabinet to catch up with the united opinion in this country. Spare the veto and spoil the Union: wield the veto and unite party and country. The national interest and the party interest are the same. Keep Britain self-governing and there will be a political reward.

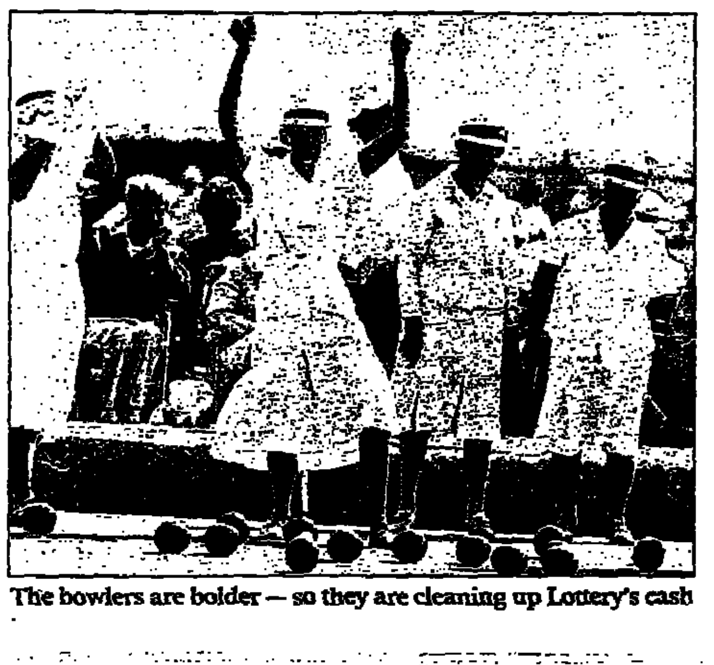
THE TIMES DIARY

Bit of bias?

BOWLS is emerging as one of the National Lottery's biggest winners. Flat green, crown green, indoor and outdoor, the sport is clearing up. "Every day, we seem to get more and more applications for money from bowls clubs — more than from any other kind of organisation," says one responsible for dishing up from the trough. "I cannot work it out."

In fact, it is simple: the hands that trim those lawns and cut translucent cucumber slices for tea are equally effective when turned to filling out wodges of lottery grant application forms. Estimates of successful applications reach £20 million. "We now rank fourth in sports grants," says a proud Fred Inch, deputy secretary of the English Bowling Association in Worthing. "We explained to our members how to apply in our yearbook and now hundreds of thousands of pounds are flooding in for new pavilions, converting greens from grass to artificial turf, bowls and mats."

When confronted by whingers from the Arts Council last month, Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, said: "Bowls clubs and Scout groups have done well out of the lottery because the people who run them appreciate the possibilities. The Arts Council can do the same."



The bowlers are bolder — so they are cleaning up Lottery's cash

Outrageous

IN NODDERS' corner at the bar of the Garrick, they are conspiring against the member who wrote of the club in a national newspaper: Alexander Chancellor, the columnist and former Editor of *The Spectator*.

After the club was visited by the Queen recently, it withstood a spirited broadside from A.N. Wilson, a columnist in the *Evening Standard*. Chancellor responded in *The Guardian*. "As a member of the club," he wrote airily, "I am not allowed to divulge what goes on inside: but on this special occasion, I expect it is all right to report that the Queen was looking very well and rather cuddly in her turquoise suit and that the Duke was wearing the salmon-and-cucumber Garrick Club tie which is so popular with the club's more ostentatious members. I hate the tie myself and never wear it."

He may no longer be able to. Moves are afoot to expel him.

Will he?

THE HEAD may have come off David Willetts's political career, but the chicken is still running. Yesterday morning around London, invitations were delivered by hand to a reception in honour of the "Leaders of the Congressional Delegations on Privatisations and Deregulation" from America, a jamboree to be hosted by D. Willetts, MP, "Paymaster General and Minister of State of the Office of Public Service". Michael Bates, however, was roped in as host at the last minute.

Pig problems

GERMANY is reeling after the star of one of the most popular recent children's films, *Rudi Snout the Racing Pig*, died during filming. Seven pigs played the part of Rudi, but one didn't survive a scene in which it had to drink five bottles of beer, stagger about a bit, then undergo an injection. An animal rights league is taking the producers to court under animal protection laws, brushing off suggestions that, after five bottles of good German beer, the beast died happier than the rest, which ended up as German sausages.

"Security is tight for the EU Summit"

Not so civil

DECEMBER is a time for laughter in the home of Teresa Gorman, Technicolor Tory MP for Billericay, as shown by her Christmas card. Giving a firm kick to the council planners who ordered Mrs Gorman to remove certain additions they had made to their old farmhouse, it shows a goofy looking Robinson Crusoe type on a desert island, standing by his just completed shelter. Behind him looms a bowler-hatted civil servant saying: "Good morning, I'm from the council planning department — I'd like a word."

● *In an 81st birthday tribute to Frank Sinatra, "Ole Blue Eyes", the Empire State Building in Manhattan was illuminated last night with hundreds of blue lights.*

P·H·S

هكذا من الاهل

DANGERS OF DISDAIN

Politicians cannot afford to ignore voters' views on Europe

The last refuge of a British politician on the defensive over Europe is to claim that the issue obsesses only a small coterie of metropolitan scribblers. While the "chattering classes" agonise over the single currency, they say, voters have more important things to worry about, such as hospitals, schools, crime or the economy. Our latest MORI poll puts the lie to that claim.

Asked what were the most important issues facing Britain today, our respondents placed Europe only narrowly behind the top concern, health. For most of this year, Europe has ranked fifth in importance, mentioned by some 20 per cent. Now the issue has raced up to second place with 38 per cent. Of course, the argument has dominated the media; but for years there has barely been a month when it has not.

What makes the finding all the more interesting is that no single event has propelled Europe up the list. In the past, European dramas have tended to increase the salience of Europe in voters' minds. But even Black Wednesday and Maastricht failed to boost the issue to the heights that it has now achieved. The 38 per cent of voters expressing concern about Europe this month compares with 22 per cent in the week after sterling crashed out of the exchange-rate mechanism and 19 per cent after the Government was forced to hold a vote of confidence over Maastricht. Nothing that has happened recently compares with those two events. Voters are now properly addressing their minds to one of the most critical issues this country has faced since the war.

Politicians across Europe have shown a disdain verging on the reckless for the views of their electorates about the future development of the EU. When the Danes voted against Maastricht, the treaty should have been rethought. Instead the Danes were told to carry on voting until they came back with the desired answer. The latest opinion poll in Germany shows that 61 per cent are alarmed by economic and monetary union. They reject the single currency by a margin of nearly two to one. Yet still Helmut Kohl ploughs ahead in bald defiance of the wishes of his people. Yesterday the German Chancellor seemed to have decided that if logical argument would not sway his voters, they would have to be scared into submission. "The concept of the European Union is the only way we can set ourselves against nationalism, power politics and war," he claimed.

Certainly war has been prevented in Western Europe for the past half-century; the pacifying force has been NATO far more than the EU. But the notion that further integration is necessary to stop the Continent erupting into nationalism is highly questionable. The opposite is more likely: deeper integration is the greatest potential catalyst for conflict. When politicians go too far against the wishes of their voters, discontent arises. In Germany, where the mark is as totemic as the Union Jack to the British, EMU will bring real anger.

The single currency carries big dangers for democracy. In less competitive countries, it will lead to high levels of unemployment and long recessions. Voters will demand action, but governments will admit themselves impotent to address these problems, as they will have no control over interest rates or exchange rates. So voters will turn to opposition parties. But they too will have to throw up their hands. When this happens, the levers of democracy will be seen to be useless. It is bad enough when politicians do not listen. It is worse when they are powerless to respond. What more fertile ground could there be for the resurgence of nationalist parties? The protection of sovereignty is not just the hunger for power of greedy politicians; it is the *sine qua non* of healthy democracy, and of a peaceful Europe.

TRIMBLE'S TACTICS

Unionists mull their options as Major loses his majority

With the predictable Labour victory in the Barnsley East by-election last night, John Major's majority in the House of Commons finally ended. The fractious nature of the Conservatives in Parliament makes this a *de facto* minority administration. In such circumstances, usually less consequential parties acquire a new standing. David Trimble has now been cast as Westminster's Warwick the Kingmaker, the man with the power to produce an earlier election and almost certain Conservative defeat.

To some of the old school in Ulster such a possibility seems shocking. Conservatives and Unionists share a long bloodline. Virtually all the most passionate supporters of their cause among mainland politicians remain within Tory ranks. Until recently Labour was considered distinctly hostile.

History, however, has two sides. It has been more than 20 years since the various *Ulster Unionist groupings broke with Smith* Square. Conservatives in office have a checkered record from a loyalist perspective: Edward Heath produced the Sunningdale compact for power-sharing; Margaret Thatcher the Anglo-Irish agreement of 1985; and John Major the Downing Street declaration.

By contrast, it was the Attlee Government which incorporated the rights of Northern Ireland's majority into statute in 1949, Harold Wilson who abandoned the Sunningdale framework, and James Callaghan who appointed Roy Mason, a supreme hawk on security matters, to run Northern Ireland's affairs. Just as in office the Tories must always bend over backwards on the National Health Service, the Labour Party in power can never appear soft on the IRA.

The past may give Mr Trimble food for thought; the immediate present, however, frames his calculations. A hung Parliament after the next contest would maximise his authority. If that possibility looks increasingly remote he must ponder how best to frame his relations with an incoming Labour Prime Minister. Hastening his arrival may help Mr Trimble's influence.

The room for such strategies is more limited than it looks. The Labour Party is not going to offer the Unionists any arrangements — explicit or implicit — before the election. Even if it did, no such bargain could be guaranteed once Tony Blair entered Downing Street. Nor can the Conservatives afford the impression that they would trade their positions in the peace process for parliamentary advantage.

Mr Trimble certainly should be talking to Mr Blair, as he will today. For while it is clear what Labour's stance on Northern Ireland now is not, it is far less certain what *it actually is. If that dialogue forced Mr Blair* and his associates to think through how they intend to handle what is becoming an increasingly difficult inheritance in Ulster, then the Opposition would be enriched by such conversations even it proved of no assistance in a confidence motion.

Despite all the temptation, Mr Trimble should avoid trying to be too clever by half. Ultimately, the Unionists must reach their conclusions based on the specific questions that confront them in the Commons and on the interests of their constituents both as residents of Northern Ireland and citizens of the United Kingdom. Single-issue politics and smoke-filled rooms are unlikely to deliver real rewards. There is nothing to be won from stating that Ulster is as British as Huntingdon or Sedgefield, and then behaving in a manner which suggests it is not.

OLD TARZAN'S PRACTICAL CATS

Run with the mice, but mouse with the cats

Fat cattery, fat cattery,
No wild game's like fat cattery.
There never was a trade for such
Executive stroking and cat flattery.
For top cats are disappointed THAT
The public always thinks of them as FAT.
But anyone in business knows
Top cats are mean and lean and fit,
And for Enterprise UK Inc
All more than do their bit.
So yesterday top cats took breakfast
(It was meant to be by stealth)
Proclaiming that their only business
Is creating Britain's wealth.
And not seven-figure salaries
Nor a stretched cat limousine,
Nor the other top cat perquisites
Which cat-haters call "obscene".
Sir Colin of the British Airways
And John Neill of Unipart
Told the rows of cat executives
That they should now take heart.
Purr proud for privatised cat litter,
Yowl the trumpet, scratch the drum,
Proclaim how much they earn for Britain —
THEN a better image will come.
There were cats from oil, and cats from gas,
And cats from the utilities,
And plutocats and Eurocats —
But NO toms from public futilities.
I might mention Mungocedric,
I could name-drop Pitcherbone
And all those other top cats
Whose share options are widely known.
Careful cats sent their excuses,
Diplomatic pussies pleaded 'flu'.
But the cats passed *nem. con.* a motion
Of what every top cat knew:
They are friends of Michael Heseltine,
But to keep feline friendships fair,
They also count on the support
Of arch catophile, nice Mr Tony Blair.
Cats are not party political,
Nor against the windfall tax.
They are just business analytical
To get big government off their backs.
And to show there is no nicer way
To kill a cat than choking it with cream,
They had breakfast at the Lanesborough,
The most expensive hotel ever seen.
For site-owner of top cats' hotel
Is hereditary fat cat of state:
Norman Gros Veneur, "Fat Hunting Cat",
Of the Grosvenor Estate.
Top cats are sleek, they can be fun,
Women think they have the charm of Cupid.
But they did not get where they have got
From being rash or stupid.
So the fat cats voted *cream for all*,
With a lobby to miaow it,
With kippers and fish fingers,
When some Chancellor will allow it.
A clever cat eats cheese then breathes
Down rat holes with baited breath,
But for cats to take up politics
Would be like waiting death.
So to parade their patriotic lack of fat,
And keep open every OPTION,
They'll wait till after the election
For their campaign's ADOPTION.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Willetts case and MPs' standards

From Mr Andrew Dyke

Sir, The real shame of the report of the Committee on Standards and Privileges is their decision in future to take evidence from MPs under oath (reports, December 12): It is utterly disgraceful that Members have, by continuing misbehaviour and a dissembling disregard for the simple ethical code that governs the lives of most of us, allowed the esteem in which they are held to have fallen so far that even their colleagues no longer believe them to be likely to speak truthfully.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW DYKE,
40 Compton Road,
Winchmore Hill, N21.
December 12.

From Mr Patrick Mulcahy

Sir, Another "honourable" resignation; where is the honour in a resignation brought about directly as a result *of public condemnation by one's* peers, for patently dishonourable behaviour?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MULCAHY,
17 Milton Close,
Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire.
December 11.

Civil servants

From Mr Denis Meehan

Sir, The Deputy Prime Minister accuses civil servants of "leaking" confidential information and his evidence seems to consist of a file of press cuttings (report, December 11). What brass neck.

For years now civil servants, like other public sector workers, have been rubbished by their political bosses. They have been privatised, contracted out, hived off into "agencies" and told at every conceivable opportunity that they were vastly inferior to their counterparts in the private sector. The very notion of public service as a good in itself has been all but destroyed by the free-market dogma and the sleazy practice of modern Conservatism.

Michael Heseltine should give thanks that the loyalty of the vast majority of civil servants has survived intact this determined assault from his party, not brand the whole service with the shame of the few.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MEEHAN,
238 Upper Richmond Road,
Putney, SW15.
December 12.

From Mr Bill Kearns

Sir, It is ironic that Mr Heseltine should be so concerned about leakage from the Civil Service. He has been a member of a government that has politicised the Civil Service; has confused the protection of information that needs to be protected for reasons of state security with information which, if disclosed, would be politically embarrassing to the present Government; and has shown no inclination to produce the more open government we were promised over a decade ago.

In such an environment it is hardly surprising that the leak has emerged as the counterbalance and check to further authoritarian administration. As a democrat Mr Heseltine should be pleased that our society is capable of adjusting to counter the influence and excesses of the powerful.

Yours ever,
BILL KEARNS,
11 Court Royal Mews,
Northlands Road,
Southampton, Hampshire.
December 12.

Monetary union

From Sir William Nicoll

Sir, Drawing on his experience as a Commission official involved in exchange-rate policy, Mr Bernard Connolly (letter, November 27) warns that even if Britain does not join the monetary union it may find itself in the toils of Article 109m of the treaty on European Union. This requires member states to treat their exchange policy as a matter of common interest. Protocol 11 makes it clear that this Article applies to the UK despite the opt-out.

Mr Connolly does not however remind us that Article 109m is not new. It is a watered-down version of the old Article 107. This went further than 109m by providing that if a member state seriously distorts the conditions of competition (eg, by devaluing), the Commission — unusually acting within its own powers — may authorise other member states to take countermeasures.

Old Article 107 was never invoked against non-participants in the European monetary system. On precedent the new version will not be either.

The practical demonstration is that last summer President Chirac did not seek to invoke it against what he then regarded as an undervalued lira; instead the French have now used it to secure Italy's re-entry into the EMS.

Yours faithfully,
W. NICOLL
(Director General,
Council of the EU, 1982-91)
Outback, Nackington Road,
Canterbury, Kent.
December 6.

Business letters, page 27
Sport letters, page 38

Afghan struggle rooted in history

From the Bishop of Rochester

Sir, I am sure that your report by Anthony Loyd, "Starving Kabul sells bones of the dead to survive" (December 9), has moved many people.

When, in the early 1980s, the Soviet Union supported a pro-communist regime in Afghanistan by sending troops, I opposed this action publicly, bringing down on myself the wrath of the pro-Soviet churches.

By communist standards, however, *the regime that came to power was* moderate and became increasingly so as it adapted to the Afghan context. Both the Western powers and the Pakistani military regime of the time were, nevertheless, determined to push the Soviets out and to make Afghanistan the "Vietnam" of the Soviet Union.

To this end, hundreds of millions of dollars worth of sophisticated arms were supplied to the Afghan Mujahidin fighting the Soviet-backed Government. Many of these Mujahidin *came from other parts of the Muslim* world and most were trained and supported in Pakistan and in other neighbouring countries. Pakistan was also host to millions of Afghan refugees who were forced to flee the civil war — and was the major conduit for arms supplies.

The Mujahidin were a motley crew representing a host of competing ideologies. Some were more moderate than others, but the harvest of western support for them has been bitter indeed.

The country of Afghanistan has been destroyed by a generation of civil war, the liberties of its citizens, especially of women, curtailed to an extent unimaginable under the former "communist" regime.

Pakistan is awash with arms and drugs and the violence these have brought. Now, according to your correspondent, it buys the bones of the dead. The battlefields have provided a fruitful training ground for militant fundamentalists from many different parts of the world. I believe that the Afghan struggle has influenced nearly every other conflict in the Muslim world, all because the West wanted to teach the Soviet Union a lesson.

Churches in the West are not exempt from blame. Only too often they were co-opted by their governments to pick up the humanitarian costs of the conflict: very rarely did they ask whether the conflict was necessary.

Afghanistan is not an isolated instance of a political or strategic mistake. The West has supported conservative and even fundamentalist regimes throughout the region, while opposing "progressive" regimes such as that of Mosaddeq in Iran and Nasser in Egypt because its own interests were perceived to be in jeopardy. We are now reaping the whirlwind.

Both the Western powers and Pakistan now have a responsibility to ensure that basic human rights in Afghanistan are not violated in the name of culture or religion. The United Nations needs to bring pressure to bear on all groups to respect the rights of those who are powerless.

Yours faithfully,
†MICHAEL ROFFEN:,
Bishopscourt, Rochester, Kent.
December 9.

Fatigue syndrome

From Dr Colin Fink

Sir, There are a number of us who find ourselves outside the consensus of the Royal Colleges concerning so-called post-viral fatigue.

I have seen a number of patients with absolutely no previous evidence of psychiatric illness and normal personalities who nevertheless suffer the long drawn out difficulties of fatigue and unpredictable fits of exhaustion after an apparently trivial illness.

Contrary to Dr Thomas Stuttaford's comment (report, December 6) that "it is not a distinct disease caused by a single agent", we do not know whether a single agent is involved in triggering this illness or whether it is a particular host response to a variety of infectious agents.

There is evidence from the literature that some individuals appear to develop a changed and blunted response to their own hormones, but on blood biochemical testing they appear to have normal hormone levels.

It is a matter of concern that many physicians have stopped looking at or listening to the patient and rely only on biochemical and laboratory data. A thorough medical history and careful examination can still provide most important diagnostic evidence of an illness.

We are using and developing a number of molecular diagnostic techniques of remarkable sensitivity coupled with thorough old fashioned medicine to try and see whether there is an infectious agent that triggers this distressing condition.

One of the diagnostic difficulties is that many patients who find themselves chronically unwell and exhausted quite naturally become depressed. It is this depression which reinforces the pattern of the illness.

It is depressing for patients to be pigeonholed as suffering from a primarily psychological illness when so little hard data is presently available.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN FINK (Clinical virologist
and general practitioner),
Micropathology Ltd,
Institute of Research
and Development,
University of Birmingham
Research Park, Vincent Drive,
Edgbaston, Birmingham.
December 6.

From Dr John H. Greensmith

Sir, The Royal Colleges joint report, which at last recognises a genuine illness, comes out in favour of the term chronic fatigue syndrome rather than ME, which it rightly criticises because there is no evidence for inflammation of the brain and spinal cord. There has long been some reservation in the ME associations for the same reason.

One reason for clinging to ME, however, is that it recognises a *particular* disorder rather than a number of illnesses in which fatigue may be but one factor and which could all be subsumed under the more general chronic fatigue syndrome. Let's keep *it, it is argued, until we find a more* appropriate label.

Rather than bicker over nomenclature, may I suggest that we all cooperate in some decently funded international research and *then*, on the basis of findings, worry about the best name for it.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GREENSMITH,
36a North Street, Downend, Bristol.
December 6.

Albright's appointment

*From the Reverend
Margaret L. Dodds*

Sir, Your New York reporter does us all a disservice by discussing the appointment of Madeleine Albright as America's first female Secretary of State (December 6) in almost wholly sexist language.

He portrays this "divorced mother-of-three" as one whose reputation for "unladylike" bluntness nevertheless allows her to "play to" a domestic audience in her "eagerness to please Congress" and who has "courted Senator Jesse Helms" (who is "clearly charmed" by her, a sign he will not oppose the confirmation of her appointment). The final paragraph is devoted to her perennial weight problem.

I cannot imagine such an article being printed about any previous Secretary of State. Her superb education is scarcely mentioned (Wellesley College and Columbia).

And surely your reporter could have found *someone* from the UN to assess her work besides the anonymous officials who passed on venomous undocumented epithets like "Half-Bright".

We need a more intelligent appraisal of this powerful appointment and its potential for good or ill in a *changing world*.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET L. DODDS
(Co-Pastor,
North Bradford Group
United Reformed Church),
418 Livingstone Road,
Bradford, West Yorkshire.
December 6.

Hitler's Jewish soldiers

From Mr Charles Corman

Sir, Bernard Levin (article, "Hitler's martial Jews", December 6) agonises over those part-Jews and, occasionally, full-Jews who fought for Hitler in the Second World War.

The answer is to be found in the article itself. At no point does Mr Levin refer to their Jewishness or any ties they had with the Jewish religion, culture or heritage.

"Jewish blood", to use Mr Levin's expression, when divorced from Jewish spiritual values, makes a person no different from anyone else and therefore, in the Nazi era, just as capable as the next German of fighting for Hitler.

This issue is highly relevant, particularly in the context of today's moral debate, for all who cut off their links with their spiritual past.

Yours truly,
CHARLES CORMAN,
2 Serjeants' Inn, EC4.
December 9.

Scottish justice

From Mr Robert Clow

Sir, Yesterday's second leader, "Lanark lessons", referred to the "occasional" superiority of Scots to English law. Those who live up here might be forgiven if they normally referred to the occasional superiority of the English variety, when reading your reports on criminal justice.

At its best, there would appear to be a greater chance of obtaining justice under Scots law; at its worst, if a member of the criminal class, one can occasionally go "scot-free" (no relation) should the case be "not proven".

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT CLOW,
Aiket Castle,
Dunlop, Ayrshire.
December 11.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Financial crisis at Royal Academy

From Mr Richard Sorrell

Sir, When reading of the Royal Academy's troubles (reports and article, December 7), one cannot but reflect that this fine institution deserves better.

The great exhibitions introduce fine art to the public as do the state-funded museums. The Summer Exhibitions encourage artists on an enormous scale. The schools, now more than ever before, provide unrivalled teaching. They are alone in offering a three-year postgraduate course which throws a bridge across that chasm between being a student and being an artist.

The RA is a national treasure.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD SORRELL,
Flower Cottage, Chapel Street,
Welford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.
December 8.

From Mrs Humphrey Brooke

Sir, No institution in possession of the Michaelangelo Tondo and the finest exhibition galleries in Europe can be considered to be in anything but temporary financial difficulties.

The Royal Academy was founded by artists for artists with two main statutory aims: the maintenance of the Royal Academy Schools and an annual exhibition of works by living artists.

If the other exhibitions prove too costly to mount for a time, I feel confident that there are many other organisations which, with the approval of the President and council, would be only too delighted to hire the unparalleled galleries for exhibitions during the winter months at a market rent.

Yours faithfully,
NATHALIE BROOKE,
Flat 3, 11 Onslow Square, SW7.
December 11.

From Mrs Diana King

Sir, As there are about 70,000 Friends of the RA, of whom I am one, surely we can help. If each donated £50 to the cause the immediate condition would be alleviated.

We joined to help the Academy, not just to obtain free tickets. Now is the time to show our allegiance and good will. Let's do it!

Recriminations can come later.

Yours faithfully,
DIANA KING,
31 Marloes Road, W8.
December 7.

*From the Secretary of the
Royal Academy of Arts*

Sir, In his article on the Royal Academy's financial position Richard Morrison refers to "allegations of . . . 'borrowing' from the pension fund".

No money has been removed from the pension scheme. As the result of an administrative error payments totalling £200,000 due to the scheme were not made. This will be rectified. The auditors have not "been unable to complete the audit for the year ending September 1996" (report, same day). They simply have not yet finished it.

Your front-page report surmised that it was the intention of the President and myself to "remove control" of the Royal Academy from the council. In fact we intend to supply council with much more, and better, information on which to base decisions.

Finally, there is no plan to convert one of the Sackler galleries into a café. There is a plan, which council has ap*proved, for a new Sculpture Court* café by the lift on the ground floor of the Sackler Wing.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GORDON,
Secretary,
Royal Academy of Arts,
Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1.
December 11.

From Mr Tom McLean

Sir, So, the Royal Academy and the British Museum need more help from accountants.

May we expect progress in these two institutions similar to that made in the NHS in the past 20 years?

Yours faithfully,
TOM McLEAN,
Ings End,
Rimington, Clitheroe, Lancashire.
December 9.

Cash crisis

From Mr R. D. Cohen

Sir, As if the advent of the year 2000 does not cause information technologists enough stress, where is the new logo for the euro (report, December 12) to be found on the qwerty keyboard?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER COHEN,
41 Hale Lane, Mill Hill, NW7.
December 12.

Everything must go?

From Mr David Mowat

Sir, When I asked two small carollers at my door last evening: "What cause are you collecting for?", the taller one said: "We're saving it up for the January sales."

Yours faithfully
DAVID MOWAT,
7 Freshfield Road,
Formby, Liverpool.
December 8.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 13: The Amir of the State of Qatar and Shaikha Mouza visited The Queen.

Her Excellency Mrs Saïda Chtioui was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of her predecessor and her own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Tunisia to the Court of St James's.

Mr Robertson Young (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

His Excellency Jonkheer Prosper Thuysbaert and Mrs Thuysbaert were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Kingdom of Belgium to the Court of St James's.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 13: The Prince of Wales this morning visited Wiston House Conference Centre, Wilton Park, Steyning, in honour of its Fiftieth Anniversary and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex (Major General Sir Philip Ward).

His Royal Highness spoke at a conference on "A Sense of the Sacred — Building Bridges betwen Islam and the West" and afterwards attended a Luncheon.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 13: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, The Royal Ballet, this afternoon attended the Kenneth MacMillan Choreographic Competition at the Royal Ballet School, White Lodge, Richmond Park.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 13: The Duchess of Gloucester, accompanied by The Duke of Gloucester, today took the Salute at the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Camberley.

Their Royal Highnesses were received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr Philip Wroughton).

YORK HOUSE
December 13: The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant-Colonel Charles O'Brien on assuming command of the 5th Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Keith Walter on relinquishing the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, this afternoon received Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Cass on assuming command of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Whistler on relinquishing the appointment.

Lincoln's Inn

Colonel David Hills has been appointed Under Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn in succession to Captain Malcolm Carver RN. Colonel Hills will start work in May and will take over when Captain Carver retires on August 31, 1997, after 15 years service.

Inner Temple

Masters of the Bench
Mr Justice Keith, Judge Weeks, QC, Mr Michael Spencer, QC, Mr Roderick Denyer, QC, Miss Genevra Caws, QC, Mr Victor Temple, QC, and Mr Richard Plender, QC, have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Cumberland Lodge

Dr Eric Anderson, Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, is to succeed Lord Moore of Wolvercote as Chairman of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Foundation of St Catharine's.

Election

Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference
Mr Michael B. Mavor, Head Master of Rugby School, has been elected Chairman of The Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference for the year 1997.

Election

Royal London Yacht Club
Mr Keith Topley has been elected Commodore of the Royal London Yacht Club in succession to Mr David Cheverton.

Legal appointment

Circuit Judge
Mr Adrian Charles Smith to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Northern Circuit.

Scottish Episcopal Church

Diocese of Edinburgh
The Rev Rosemary Nixon, Director and Principal of the Theological Institute of the Scottish Episcopal Church, has been appointed Pantonian Professor of Theology and as such has been installed as Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

Ordinations and appointments

Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney
Ingrid St Clair Cosby, previously NS Deacon at St Mary's, Stromness, has been ordained to the priesthood. She remains at St Mary's as NS Priest.

Eleanor Morson, Assistant Priest at St Olaf's, Kirkwall, has been appointed Assistant Minister at St Magnus (Church of Scotland) Cathedral. This is in addition to her post at St Olaf's.

Ruth Elizabeth Tait has been commissioned as NS Priest at St Michael's, Dufftown. She was previously NSM at St Michael's.

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway
George Newlands has been issued with a Warrant to officiate in the diocese.

Ivan Thomas Draper, Hon Assistant Curate at St Bride's, Glasgow, has been licensed as Temporary Priest in Charge at St Bride's for six months from November 10.

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane
Jonathan Patrick Mason, previously Assistant Curate at Old St Paul's, Edinburgh, has been appointed Rector at All Saints, St Andrew's.

ADRIAN BROOKS

The Duchess of Gloucester inspecting the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst yesterday, accompanied by Major-General John Deverell, commandant of the academy.

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Captain the Hon Sir Nicholas Beaumont, 67; Mr Vivian Bendall, MP, 58; Professor Richard Cassilly, operatic tenor, 69; General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick, 84; the Right Rev J.B.R. Grindrod, former Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia, 77; Sir Anthony Kershaw, former MP, 81; Miss Barbara Leigh-Hunt, actress, 61; Mr Thomas McAvoy, MP, 53; Sir Malcolm McIntosh, civil servant, 51; Mr C.R. Morris, former MP, 70; Mr Alberto Morrocco, painter, 79; Mr Toby Newth, Governor, Exeter prison, 59; Sir John Osborn, former MP, 74; Dame Ruth Railton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 81; Mr Stan Smith, tennis player, 50; Mr Roy Thomason, MP, 52; Sir Simon Towneley, Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, 75; Miss Rosalyn Tureck, conductor, 82; Mr Peter Williams, rugby league player, 36.

TOMORROW: Mr David Abell, former chairman and chief executive, Suter, 54; Mrs Valerie Aggett, former Principal, Holborn Law College, 46; Mr Michael Bogdanov, theatre director, 58; Mr Clive Brittain, racehorse trainer, 63; the Earl of Buckinghamshire, 52; Dr S.A. Checkley, psychiatrist, 51; Professor Ivor Crewe, Vice-Chancellor, Essex University, 51; Lord Croham, 79; Mr Lanfranco Dettori, jockey, 26; Sir Graham Dorey, Bailiff of Guernsey, 64; Air Marshal Sir John Fitzpatrick, 67; Miss Ida Haendel, violinist, 72; Mr Gunnar Hägglöf, GCVO, Swedish diplomat, 92; Sir Henry Hardman, civil servant, 91; Mr Oliver Heald, MP, 42; Mr Kevin Hughes, MP, 44; Mr Don Johnson, actor, 47; Mr Joe Jordan, football manager, 45; General Sir Frank Kitson, 70; Miss Henrietta Knight, racehorse trainer, 50; Deaconess Dr Una Kroll, writer and broadcaster, 71; Mr David McMurray, Headmaster, Oundle School, 59; Mr Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 89; Miss Edna O'Brien, writer, 60; Mr Brian Roper, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive, University of North London, 47; Commandant Anne Spencer, former director, WRNS, 58; Professor Sir John Meurig Thomas, FRS, Master, Peterhouse, Cambridge, 64; Professor M.H.F. Wilkins, FRS, biophysicist, Nobel prizewinner 1962, 80.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.D. Brewer
and Miss A.P. Perricone
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Brewer, of Gomersal, West Yorkshire, and Alexandra, daughter of the late Dott Mario Perricone and of Mrs Mario Perricone.

Mr D. Edelman
and Miss S. Page
The marriage takes place today in the City of London, of Daniel Edelman, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Jack Edelman, and Samantha Page, only daughter of Mr Jeremy Page and Mrs Carolyn Finlay-Notman.

Dr A.J.L. Jowett
and Dr S.E. Joyner
The engagement is announced between Andrew James Lund, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Richard Jowett, of Poole, Dorset, and Saskia Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Miles Joyner, of Huxham, Devon.

Mr J.D. Letts
and Miss C.J. Friend
The engagement is announced between Daniel, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Letts, of London, and Katie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Irvine Friend, of Mucklestone Old Rectory, Market Drayton, Shropshire.

Mr N.D.G. Williams
and Miss D.E. Davis
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Brigadier and Mrs Tom Williams, of Tonbridge, Kent, and Diana, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. David Davis, of Kensington, London and Washington DC, USA.

Mr J.M. Burton
and Dr J.S. Meecham
Dr and Mrs John Meecham, of Heswall, Wirral, are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer, to John, son of Mr and Mrs Ron Burton, of Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Mr S.K. Thorpe
and Miss J.R. Morris
The engagement is announced between Stephen, only son of Mr and Mrs Brian Thorpe, of Ergué Gabéric, Brittany, and Julia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Morris, of Guildford, Surrey.

Marriage

Mr A. Down
and Miss J. Minoprio
The marriage has taken place between Mr Ashley Down, of Sydney, Australia, and Miss Jo Minoprio, youngest daughter of Mr Michael Minoprio, of London, and Mrs Peter Hudson, of Somerset.

Glass Sellers' Company

The following have been installed as officers of the Glass Sellers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr Robert L. Thomas; Prime Warden, Mr John R. Hitch; Renter Warden, Mr Christopher N.K. Tizard.

Anniversaries are on the facing page

Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday in Advent

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch; 6.30 Choral E.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, O'Carroll in D, This is the record of John (Gibbons), The Dean; 3.15 Choral E, Sumsion in G, Rejoice in the Lord (Redford).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 Choral C, Darke in F, This is the record of John (Gibbons); 3.30 Choral E, Murrill in E, Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Choral Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Benedictus (Dyson in D), Rt Rev J Austin; 4 Choral E, Noble in A, This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev P Watts.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon Hindley; 9.30 Televised Advent Service, This is the record of John (Gibbons), The Provost; 10.30 HC, The Provost; 4 Choral E, This is the record of John (Gibbons), Canon D Galilee.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 8 Holy Euch; 11 M, Benedictus (Stanford in B flat), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Purcell); 3.30 E, Ireland in F, Sleepers, wake! (Bach).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, The Gloucester Mass (Shephard), This is the record of John (Gibbons), Canon P Johnson; 3.30 Choral E, Wesley in E, Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Canon J Simpson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Ridout in F, Prope est Dominus (Regnart), Rev K Wilkinson; 3.15 E, Moore in G, People of Sion (Jackson); 6.30 Compline, The Dean.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), This is the record of John (Gibbons), Archdeacon D Turnbull; 3 E, Popular Carol Service.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC, Rev I Moody; 9.30 Euch, Rev J Jones; 11.15 S Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour (Oldroyd), Canon D Knight; 6 Choral E, Short Service (Gibbons), This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev I Moody.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina), Canon M Rees; 11.30 Choral M & Holy Baptism, Benedicite (Harris in A), Thou judge of quick and dead (Wesley), Canon M Rees; 3.30 Choral E, Fifth Service (Tomkins), Rorate coeli (Palestrina); 6.30 Christingle Service, The Dean.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Benedicite (Jackson in G), Come my way (Cooper), The Treasurer; 11 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Prevent us O Lord (Byrd), Rt Rev M Marshall; 1.45 Seaford College Carol Serv; 3.30 E, Chichester Serv (Berkeley), Prepare ye the way of the Lord (Wise).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M & Sermon, Benedicite (Chant), Rev T Williams; 11.15 S Euch, Mass (Stravinsky), Pater noster (Stravinsky), Canon Webster; 6 E, Chichester Serv (Walton), Geistliches Lied (Brahms).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 Communion; 10.30 Euch, Litany (Wright), This is the record of John (Gibbons), Canon C Burch.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon M Perry; 10 M, Benedicite in A (Harris), Thou judge of quick and dead (Wesley), Canon D Brown; 11.15 HC, Mass in E flat (Rheinberger), Canon D Hodgson; 3.30 E, The Second Service (Gibbons), This is the record of John (Gibbons).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd), De caelo veniet (Handl), Rev Emma Percy; 3.45 E, Wood in E, Hark what a sound (Fletcher).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Darke in F, View me Lord (Lloyd), Canon Ison; 11.15 M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), This is the record of John (Gibbons), The Dean; 3 E, Noble in B minor, And I saw a new heaven (Bainton); 6.30 Evening, Never weather-beaten sail (Parry), Preb Skinner.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8, 12.15 HC; 10.15 Euch, Kyrie Orbis Factor (Plainsong), Stanford in C, Canon N Chatfield; 3 E, Howells in B minor, Out of your sleep arise and wake (Bennett).

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Rev Dr I Fisher; 9.45 S Euch, A Macaronic Mass (Sutherland), Ecce concipies (Handl), Canon Dr M Palmer; 11.15 M, Benedictus in F (Elgar), Virga Jesse (Bruckner), The Dean; 6.30 E, Sumsion in G, Audivi vocem de coelo (Tallis), Canon A Long.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, Mozart in C (K259), This is no rose (Joubert), The Chancellor; 2.45 Bach Choir Christmas Concert.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), The Advent Prose (Lloyd), Prepare thyself Zion (Bach), The Treasurer; 3.30 E, Sumsion in G, Vox dicentis (Naylor).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Regv M Roberts; 11.15 M, Benedicite in F (Dyson), O thou the central orb (Wood), The Subdean; 3.45 EP; 7.30 BBC Radio Lincolnshire/LSG Carol Service.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC; 10.30 Euch, Canon N Vincent; 3 Blessing of the Crib and lighting of the tree Carol Service; 4 HC.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC, The Provost; 9.30 S Euch, Short Serv (Tallis), The Lamb (Tavener), The Provost; 6 Choral E, Bairstow in G, This is the record of John (Gibbons).

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Hymne a la Vierge (Villette; 6.30 Choral E, Noble in A minor, The truth from above (Vaughan Williams).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8, 9.15 HC; 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa brevis (Ives), O sacrum convivium (Near), Archdeacon of Lynn; 3.30 E, Chichester serv (Walton), Ave maris stella (Greig), The Dean; 7 Norwich School carol serv.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 9.30 M, Benedicite in G (Jackson); 10.30 Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Stanford in G, Angelus ad virginem (Trad. arr Carter)

PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 HC, The Provost; 11 Sung Euch, The Provost; 6.30 E, The Precentor.

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch, Canon M Garnville-Smith; 9.30 Parish Euch, Ireland in C, What is the record of John (Gibbons), Archdeacon of Richmond; 11.30 M, Benedictus Dominus Deus (Stanford in C), Jubilate (Noble in B), Prepare ye the way of the Lord (Wise); 12.30 Euch, Canon H Garside; 5.30 E & Ceremony of Carols (Britten), Fauxbourdons (Holmes), Cermond of Carols (Britten).

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), People look east (Ferguson); 10.30 S Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), People look east (Ferguson), Canon R Lea; 3.15 E, Gloucester Service (Howells), This is the record of John (Gibbons).

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Spauermesse (Mozart), Ave verum (Mozart), Ven M Paton; 4 EP; 6.30 ST Luke's Hospice Silver Jubilee Service, Wesley in E, Vox Dicentis (Naylor), Prof E Wilkes.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC; 9.30 Parish C, Miss M S Liles; 11 M, Benedicite et Salvator Mundi (Ashfield), Prepare ye the way (Wise), Rev P G Wright; 3.15 E, St Paul's Service (Howells), Light of the World (Elgar); 5.45 Healing S, Rev J Harding.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Kyrie Sanctus Benedictus (Duruflé), this is the record of John (Gibbons), The Treasurer; 6 E, Sumsion in A, Vox dicentis (Naylor), The Treasurer.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC, Canon D Baxter; 9.15 Parish C, People look east (Besancon Carol), Canon I Knox; 11 Solemn Euch, Missa Brevis (Kodaly), Benedicite (Jackson in G), Canon G Nairn-Briggs; 4 E, Walmisley in D minor, Vox dicentis (Naylor), The Provost.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 Sung Euch, Darke in E, O Christ, O blessed Lord (Wagner), the Dean; 11.30 M, Holroyd in D, Sleepers wake (Mendelssohn); 3 E, Stainer in B flat, Hosanna! (Gibbons), Preb P J Riley; 7.30 Concert.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; Benedictus in C (Stanford), Prepare the way (Wise), Canon D Hutt; 11.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Harvey), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon), Oculi omnium (Wood), Rev B Fenton; 3 E, Service for trebles (Weelkes), Laetentur coeli (Byrd), Rev P Boardman; 5.45 Recital; 6.30 Evening, Canon D Hutt.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 M, Jubilate in C (Britten), Veni Domine (Esquivel), Stuart Andres; 11.30 Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Ave Maria (Parsons); 3.30 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Canite tuba in Sion (Guerrero).

WORCESTER CATHEDRAL: 9.30 Family Euch, The Precentor; 11 S Euch, Missa Eliensis (Wills), How beautiful upon the mountains (Stainer), Canon D Thomas; 6.30 Statutory E, Canon R Wintle.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Lasset uns frohloken (Mendelssohn), Rev Chancellor D Rees; 3.30 Choral E, I waited for the Lord (Mendelssohn).

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid, Yr Is Ganon; 9.30 Parish Euch, The Dean; 11.15 Choral M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), Jubilate (Stanford in B flat), Adam lay ybounden (Ord), The Dean; 6 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, O Lord give thy Holy Spirit (Tallis), The Canon.

ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells), Darke, Ave verum (Elgar); 11.30 Choral M, Moore/Wilan, Expend O Lord (Tallis); 3.30 Choral E, Howard in A flat, Thou wilt keep him (Hallam).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM; 11.30 Solemn M, Rorate coeli (Haydn), Jubilate Deo (Mozart), Rev J E Cronin; 4 Carol serv.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 HC, The Minister; 10 HC, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), the Minister; 11.30 MS, This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev Hilary Smith; 6 St Giles at Six, Pendand Consort; 8 E, The Minister.

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: 11 Morning, Record of John (Gibbons), Hosanna to the Son (Weelkes), Rev R Frazer; 6 Evening, D Thom.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa de la Batalla Escoutez (Guerrero), Benedictus in D (Dyson), Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon), Rev M Saward; 3.15 E, Child for four meanes, Judge me O God (Mendelssohn), Rev A Boddington; 5.15 Recital.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Diocesan Bishop Met. Anthony.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 5.15 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Missa Brevis in G (Mozart), Rev J Peterson; 6 E&B, Watson in E, Rev I Davies.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion; 11 Family Service, Rev R Bewes; 6.30 Carols by Candlelight, Rev J Cook.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Western Wind Mass (Taverner), Hosanna filio David (Casali), Rorate coeli desuper (Guerrero).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children; 11 M, O thou the central orb (Wood), Rev Dr Elvy; 12.15 HC; 6 E, Rev D Bean.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, Curzon St, W1: 11 Sunday School.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev J McMahon; 6.30 Rev S Hood.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: (Monday) 7.30 Carols by candlelight, Rev N Gumbel, Rev S Millar.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Mass in B flat (Schubert), Virga Jesse (Bruckner); 12.30, 4.30, 7 Mass; 3.30 V & B, Ecce concipies (Handl).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH: Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 Morning, Rev Dr L Griffiths.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral Euch, Rev P Schmiege; 2 Swahili Christmas Celebration; 7 Bach Vespers, Schwingt freudig euch empor (Bach), Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Walter), Rev P Schmiege.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa Solemnis (Langlais), Rev S Cutt; 6.30 E, Collegium Regale (Howells), O quam suavis est Domine (Lobo), Alma Redemptoris Mater (Palestrina), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Jubilate Benedicite (Lloyd), Noble in B minor, There is no rose (Joubert), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Plainsong Evensong for Men's Voices, A Ceremony of Carols (Britten), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral Euch, Darke in F, Ave Maria (Parsons), Rev P Bishop.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 A Vision of Christmas; 6.30 Rev C MacLeod.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 9, 11 Masses, Mass in G (Schubert), Tota pulchra es Maria (Bruckner), Canite Tuba (Palestrina).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Victoria), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Jerusalem Surge (Isaac), Rev B Wilson; 6 Choral E, Sumsion in G, How beautiful (Stainer).

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev S Cathie; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 HC, Fantasia & Fugue in G minor (Bach), Rev D Richards; 6.30 EP & Praise, Rev J Richardson.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 10.30 S Euch, This is the record of John (Gibbons), Rev J Hadley; 12.15 HC; 6.30 E, Prepare ye the way of the Lord (Wise), Rev L Matabula.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family Communion; 11 S Euch, Short Service (Batten), Lord we beseech thee (Batten), Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Missa aeterna Christi munera, There shall a star (Mendelssohn), Rev Dr P Bradshaw.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 E, The Vicar; 11.30 Visitors' S, Rev B Schünemann; 12.30 HC, Rev W Ratchford; 2.45 Chinese S, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, Rev Clare Herbert.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 9.30 Euch, Bishop of Kensington; 11.15 Choral M, Father Gelli; 6.30 E, Mr Nigel Pain.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 8, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa in C K258 Spaur-messe (Mozart), Lord Runcie; 6 E & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), This is the record of John (Gibbons).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Messe cum jubilo (Duruflé), Rev Neil Dawson.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 Sung Euch, Missa Mon coeur se recommande a vous (Eccard), Fr A.R. Chidwick.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC, Rev P R C Abram; 11 M, Responses (Smith), Benedicite (Sumsion), A: Behold the hour cometh (Tomkins), Rev P R C Abram.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St. James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 Carols.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Purcell in B Flat, This is the record (Gibbons); 3.30 E, Veni domine (Esquivel); Rejoice in the Lord (Purcell).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 Sung Euch, Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici (Rubbra), This is the record (Gibbons), Toccata and Fugue in B flat (Pachelbel), Rev N Whitehouse.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Te deum (Stanford in B flat), This is the record (Gibbons), Rev A Wynne; 12.30 HC.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.30 Carol S; 3 Children's Carol S.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 Lessons and Carols; 12 HC; 6 Lessons and carols, Great songs of Christmas (arr Lowden), Band of Irish Guards.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 Sung Euch, Rejoice in the Lord alway (Purcell), Rev Clive French.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

We know that the Son of God has come and given us understanding to know the true God; indeed we are in him who is true, since we are in his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 5 : 20

BIRTHS

BARNWELL - On December 8th to Diarmuid and Jean (née Aitken), in Huddersfield, a son, Alexander Liam, a brother to George.

CHANDLER - On 13th December to Jane (née Humphries) and Peter, a beautiful daughter, Lucy Florence, a much wanted sister for Emily, Christian and Robert.

COLBOURNE - On November 29th, to Charles and Caroline (née Verdonck), a daughter, Georgina Jennifer Nadine.

CURRIE - On 12th December in Oxford, to Sophie (née Emslie-Smith) and Baxter, a son, Finlay Andrew.

DAMASKOS - On December 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Eugenia (née Chandris) and John, triplets Philip, Anastasia and Hyrto.

DOUGLAS-BATE - On December 10th 1996, to Jan (née Duffin), wife of Rupert, a son, Tobias Alexander. A brother for Laura and Sam.

DUROSS - Heather on December 5th at The Portland Hospital, to Kimberly and John, a very beautiful daughter Tara Chloe.

EMANUEL - On November 28th, to Karen (née Kebela), & Peter, a lovely son, David.

FRANDSEN - On December 1st, in Copenhagen, to Rebecca (née Shaw), and Jørgen, a daughter, Madeleine Victoria.

HARDY - On 10th December 1996, to Arabella (née Fox) and Simon, a son, Edward Thomas.

HUMPHREY - On the 10th December, in Kingston Hospital, to John and Nazrina, a daughter, Jasmine.

ROSS - On 9th December at The Portland Hospital, to Maria and Dominic, a daughter, Elizabeth Sarah May.

SAER - On 10th December at St Mary's Paddington to Victoria (née Nott) and Angus a daughter Amelia Mary.

TATE - On December 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Michelle (née Dann) and Jonathan, a beautiful son, William, a brother for Alex.

TCHEN - On December 2nd, 1996 to Fiona (née Cottam) and Christopher, a son.

TRUELOVE - On 8th December 1996, to Paula (née Chisnall) and Charles, a son, James Paul John.

BIRTHS

YOUNG - On December 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Melanie and Keith, a beautiful daughter, Alexandra, a sister for Jonathan.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

PAUL:WEEDEN - On 14th December, 1946, at St Osmond's, Osmington, Dorset, John Paul to Audrey Weeden formerly of Weymouth, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Belize, The Bahamas and the Isle of Man; now at Sherfield-on-Lodden, Hampshire.

DEATHS

CLARK - Joyce Margaret peacefully at home on December 12th 1996, aged 85 years. Much loved mother of Susan, Ann and George and a beloved granny. Funeral Service at St Mark's Church, Grenoside, Sheffield on Thursday December 19th at 2.45pm after a private cremation. No flowers please. Donations, in lieu, for The British Red Cross Society to A E Heward F/D, 2a Penistone Road, Grenoside, Sheffield, S30 3QG.

CRAXTON - On 10th December 1996, Isabel Doreens Tennant, suddenly but peacefully. Dear and loved wife of Leonard, Wing Commander RAF (RTD) and loving mother of Louisa and Philippa. Private cremation for family and close friends only on Friday 20th December. No flowers. Donations if desired to the British Diabetic Association c/o Davies Funeral Services, Wallis House, Milford-on-Sea, Hants, SO41 0QD.

DANIELL - Brigadier Robert Branston Thesiger D.S.O. 3rd Royal Horse Artillery on December 11th, peacefully in his 96 year. Husband of the late Betty. Funeral and Service of Thanksgiving at St Ethelberts Church, Hessett, nr Bury St Edmunds, at 12 noon, on Thursday 19th December. Flowers to A E Thurlow & Son, Ixworth, Suffolk.

DEATHS

ELLIS - Maxwell Philip, on December 12th passed away peacefully at St George's Nursing Home, Cobham, Surrey (formerly of Townshend Road, London NW8). Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Tuesday, December 17th at 3.30pm. No flowers. Donations to The Weizmann Institute, Accurist House, 44 Baker Street, PO Box 2282, London W1A 1NW.

FIELD - On December 12th at Nether Wallop, Hampshire, Wilfred John Sutcliffe (Jack), aged 87, formerly of North Elmham, Norfolk. Beloved husband of the late Vivien and much loved father of Judith and Louise. Funeral Service to be held at St Nicholas Church, Twyford, Norfolk on Saturday December 21st at 11am. Flowers may be sent to Hendry & Sons F/D, Foulsham, Norfolk.

FORRESTER - Peacefully at home on Wednesday 11th December 1996, Alexander Clarkson, formerly Professor of Anaesthesia at Glasgow University and Glasgow Royal Infirmary. Dearly loved husband of Agnes, much loved father of James, Alistair and Donald and a loving grandfather. Funeral Service in Dundee Crematorium, on Monday December 16th, at 3pm. All friends are respectfully invited.

GRIFFIN - George W (Griffy), on December 11th 1996, after a short illness. Much loved uncle of Daphne and Susan. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on Thursday December 19th 1996, at 12 noon.

HARLEY-MASON - Marjorie Joyce (Joy) peacefully on 11th December aged 79, sometime Headmistress of Beverley, Selhurst and Guildford High Schools. Funeral Service at 2.30 pm on Thursday 19th December at St Saviours Church, Guildford, followed by cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The Bible Society or NSPCC c/o Pimms Funeral Services, Mary Road, Guildford, GU1 4QX, tel: (01483) 567394.

HORNE - Stanley Walter peacefully on December 9th at St Edmund's Hospital. Memorial Service on December 18th at 2 pm at St Giles Church, Northampton.

HULKS - Susie (née Farris) on Thursday 5th December peacefully in her sleep after a short illness. Adored wife of Robert and beloved daughter of Frank. A special memorial service will take place in the new year to celebrate her life.

LACEY - Ian, architect and planner, suddenly on 12th December 1996. Much loved husband of Julie and father of Tiffany, Tanya and Minna. He will be greatly missed. Funeral Service to be held at Golders Green Crematorium, East Chapel, on Thursday 19th December, at 2.45 pm. No flowers. Donations, if wished, to Crisis (0171 377 0489).

LEE - On Wednesday 11th December 1996, F.G. Spencer suddenly at home, aged 67 years. Very much loved husband of Joan, dear father of Sarah, Karen and Christopher and loving grandfather of Eleanor and Adam. Private cremation. Family flowers only. A service of Thanksgiving will be held at All Saints Church, Braunston at 2.30pm on Saturday 4th January 1997. Donations, if wished, for The British Legion, Braunston Branch c/o Towers & Son F/S, Church Street, Crick, Northampton, NN6 7TP. Tel: 01788 822349.

LINKE - Dr. Josef Maria Linke, born Breslau 27th February 1910, died Bushey, Herts 30th November 1996. Engineer and physicist, formerly of P.O. Telecom. Admired and loved by his many friends.

LUND - Peacefully on December 12th, in her 103rd year, Margaret Ballantine, dear sister of the late H. K. B. Lund. Funeral Service at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Friday 20th December, at 2pm.

MOORE - On 12th December 1996, at the Conquest Hospital, Hastings, Hilary Mary, dear sister of Norman, Richard and Meriel and much loved aunt and great aunt. Funeral at St. Mary Magdalene, Whatlington, Nr Battle at 11 a.m. on Thursday 19 December. Enquiries to 01424 775515.

PARKINSON - On December 12th, Elizabeth (née Gorman) aged 75 years of Crook, County Durham. Dearly loved wife of Harry, loving mother of Robert and John. Friends please meet for Requim Mass at St Cuthberts RC Church, Crook, on Tuesday, 17th December, at 11am. Interment to follow.

ROBINSON - On 11th December 1996, in Newton Abbot, Devon, Stella Mary (née McRae), aged 84. Memorial Service St. Nicholas Church, Ringmore, Devon, on 1st March 1997. All enquiries, T Clark, 01626 775141.

RUTLEY - Mildred Lilian of the The Priory, St Olaves, on December 11th 1996, aged 99 years, peacefully in hospital. Mother of Jill and mother-in-law of Iain. Funeral Service at Herringfleet Church, Suffolk on December 17th at 11.30am. Flowers to Messrs A Jary & Sons, Gorleston, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk.

SMALE - Henry Bertham, died peacefully, at Farnborough Hospital, on 12th December, aged 75. Much beloved by his wife Phyl and his daughters Alison and Katie and grandchildren Rebecca, Lucy and Joseph. Funeral Service will be held on Thursday 19th December, at Beckenham Crematorium, 10am. Family flowers only. Donations to Friends of Guys c/o Frances Chappell & Son, 231 High Street, Bromley, tel: (0181) 460 1720.

THOMPSON - On 11th December 1996 peacefully in hospital, Vice Admiral Sir Hugh Thompson, KBE, F.Eng. of Corston, Bath. Greatly loved by all his family. Private family funeral on Thursday 19th December at noon at All Saints Church, Corston. Family flowers only but donations in his memory if desired to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (Bath Branch) c/o West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1HZ. A Memorial Service will be held in Bath Abbey to commemorate his life and work on Friday 31st January 1997 at midday.

VOSS - Suddenly on December 11th, Dr. Graham Voss aged 49 years of Amberley, Stroud, Glos. Much loved by Jenny, Andrew, Michael, Nicholas and Edward, beloved by his family and many friends. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Amberley on Saturday 21st December at 11.00am followed by interment. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be sent for C.L.I.C. C/o Philip Ford & Son Funeral Directors, Dirleton House, Cainscross Road, Stroud.

WITHERS - (née Williams), Mary Constance, peacefully at home after a brave fight against cancer, on 12th December 1996. Much loved wife of Stuart and mother of Arthur and Henry. Cremation at Southport, Lancs at 1.30pm, on Thursday 19th December. Family flowers only. Thanksgiving celebration on Sunday 5th January 1997, at 2pm, in the Maharishi Golden Dome, Ashurst, Skelmersdale. Enquiries, tel 01695 50862.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

EDELMAN - Maurice Edelman M.P. Remembered devotedly today and every day by his wife Tilli and daughters Sonia and Natasha.

HARDING - Edward Flt/Lt. R.A.F.V.R. 1924-1946. His birthday tomorrow. R.I.P.

ROSS - Alan Alistair (Angus) OBE. Died December 15th 1984. Remembering with love and gratitude the golden years.

UBBELOHDE - Paul, F.R.S. Remembered always and on this his birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW-YEAR'S PARTY Music, Wine, Women & Song. Don't sit at home and wait for the phone. Let's join us. Lux riverside apt. Bettina May: 0171 482 0887

DEAR AUTOHERREN Gestern liebt'ich, Heute leid'ich, morgen sterb'ich, Dennoch denk'ich heut und morgen Gern an gestern. G.E. Lessing 1729 - 1781

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PIANO Yamaha Clavinova CP122S still packaged, offers around £1,200. Southampton area 01306 260622.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

MUST sell collection German artists dolls. P. Miller. 0171 351 0294 or 0850 968173.

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TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

ALLEN MRS. HILDA of FIVE OAKS, LITTLE HEATH ROAD, TILEHURST, READING died on 7th NOVEMBER 1996 Particulars to SARJEANT & SHEPPARD Solicitor(s) of 180 FRIAR STREET, READING, RG1 1HE before 16th FEBRUARY 1997

BANK, ABRAHAM of Limes Retirement Home, 11/13 Fenstanton Avenue, North Finchley, London, N12 and 197 Brondesbury Park, Willesden Green, London NW2 died on 18 November 1996 particulars to TRUGHAMS Solicitors of 26 DORSET STREET, LONDON W1M 3FU before 17 February 1997

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COURT & SOCIAL
FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES
Over the Christmas period the following deadline will apply:-
Notices to appear on:-
Friday December 20, Saturday December 21,
Monday December 23, Tuesday December 24,
Thursday December 26, Friday December 27,
Saturday December 28, and Monday December 30,
should be received in writing by
5pm on Wednesday December 18.
ALL NOTICES ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION
Tel: 0171 782 7347
Fax: 0171 782 7725

TRUSTEE ACTS

BROWN ROSEMARY of Buzon T-177, Tabaira, Moraira, Teulada, Alicante, Spain died on 22nd April 1996. Particulars to Lancasters - 486 Chiswick High Road London W4 5TT Ref: AW /2764/1/5. Administrator- Nicholas David George Brown. Claims before 19th February 1997

DIGHTMAKER Sicely Olive (otherwise known as Cicelia Olive Dightmaker) late of 19 William Dromey Court, Dyne Road, Kilburn, London, NW6. Particulars to KEITH HALL, JUVILER & CO. 422 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middx, UB6 9AG (Ref FL.SH) before 17TH February 1997.

HEWITT, LOUISA EMILY (otherwise LOUISE EMILY) of 68 Gilfoot, Hampstead Road, London, NW1 died on 26th January 1996 particulars to ORMOND GAUNT & ROSE Solicitors of WINSTON HOUSE, 349 REGENTS PARK ROAD, FINCHLEY, LONDON N3 1DH (Ref: 26) before 15 February 1997

LYELL NICHOLAS DRUMMOND LATE OF 12 YEOMANS ROW, LONDON SW3 WHO DIED ON 26 JULY 1996. PARTICULARS TO CHARLES RUSSELL, SOLICITORS 8-10 NEW FETTER LANE, LONDON EC4A 1RS (Ref: JMWR/JCBS) BEFORE 18 FEBRUARY 1997

ROCHE, WALTER RICHARD of 172 Flora Gardens, Hammersmith, London W6 died on 30 October 1996 particulars to DEREK JONES & CO Solicitors of 200A NORTHOLT ROAD, SOUTH HARROW, MIDDLESEX HA2 0EN before 15 February 1997

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AND
IN THE MATTER OF MURRAY HARRINGTON & MCNAMEE LIMITED
IN ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at The Britannia Hotel, The Crystal Room, Portland Street, Manchester M1 3LA, on Friday the 10th day of January 1997 at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned on Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Creditors of the Company may be inspected free of charge at the offices of Kidsons Impey, Devonshire House, 36 George Street, Manchester M1 4HA on the two business days immediately preceding the date of the meeting.

Dated this 12th day of December 1996
G F HILTON
JOINT ADMINISTRATOR

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE
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Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

PUBLIC NOTICES

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Total Offender Management Solution

EOI 70/96

The Ministry of Justice of Western Australia invites Expressions of Interest for products and services for a total offender management solution. A package integrated information system and implementation services are the major components. Part or total solutions invited. Pre-qualification to restricted tender may follow.

Closing date: 2.30pm WST, Thursday 6 February 1997.

Document available: (61 9) 222 5498.
Facsimile (61 9) 222 5666.
Also on internet http://www.wa.gov.au/contracts/

Enquiries: Cyril Clayton (61 9) 264 1617. Briefing session 9.00am WST, 20 December 1996.

هكذا من الاصل

ROBERT APPLEBY

rt Appleby, CBE, man of the British y of Black & Decker, lied on November 15 3. *He was born on* nuary 22, 1913.

managerial success of ert Appleby proved to be of the more durable ducts of the postwar IY. Under his energetic the 1950s and 1960s the idiary of the American r Black & Decker cap- 90 per cent of the market in tools for the ndyman, to the extent mpany's name became eric label for its own — ls' — household power

vas in every sense a do- eer, one that took him yment in Yorkshire in *the Depression* to the anship of a US-based at a time when most nanagerial traffic was *e direction.*

at the Graham Sea d Engineering School in gh, he started out as a 15- trainee fitter in the car . "not a shopfloor man, but weeping-the-shopfloor man", r said. The Depression closed at particular career path, and in Appleby, like so many of his ow northerners in that grim cade, set off for London in search of work.

He found it, eventually, in the domestic appliances division of HMV, where he started as a factory hand and rose to be stores manager and then production manager. During the Second World War he worked for a time in the Ministry of Production, and in 1946 was part of a team sent to Germany to consider that country's postwar industrial redevelopment.

When he arrived at Black & Decker's Harmondsworth plant in 1953, it was an insignificant offshoot of its American parent company. Three years later he was appointed chairman and managing director of the British operation. He went on to preside over almost two decades of rapid growth.

And it was Black & Decker's British and overseas business that grew most quickly. By the beginning of the 1970s, out of a total group turnover of $286 million, operations outside the US accounted for some $119 million, with Britain alone responsible for half of that. Two further British plants were opened, and the 500-strong workforce grew to 2,800. The company twice won the Queen's Award for Exports.

Such was Appleby's success with the British arm of the company that he was soon made responsible for the drive into other overseas markets. Eventually, bucking the trend of an era in which British businesses seemed to be coming increasingly under the influence of American management, he rose to be a key figure within the US parent company, being appointed chairman of its finance committee and deputy chairman of the main board, answerable only to Alonzo G. Decker himself.

Behind Appleby's achievements, according to his own analysis, was a combination of entrepreneurial instinct and rigorous management techniques. The former enabled him to spot and to exploit the vogue for DIY and "home improvements".

He saw to it that Black & Decker went all out to target the weekend handyman, using mass-media advertising to capture the developing mass-market. As production increased and costs were cut, price reductions enabled the company to see off most of its rivals.

But that instinctive approach to the market had to be balanced, he insisted, by managerial discipline and control. To that end he employed a whole battery of formal techniques and was a strong advocate of the importance of non-capital investment (in management systems as well as research and development) — usually an early casualty whenever profits are threatened.

A fellow and founder member of the British Institute of Management, Appleby developed his ideas in numerous papers and lectures on business methods and systems. He drew on his experience at Black & Decker while serving as a member of the Prime Minister's productivity conferences of 1966 and 1967; the clothing industry Economic Development Committe ("little Neddy") of 1966; the council of the Confederation of British Industry; and the Post Office board, 1972-73. He was appointed CBE in 1969.

Yet he disliked being associated with the trend towards so-called *"scientific management"* and admitted that the controls he had introduced at Black & Decker, while rigorous, were very much the products of his personal style.

In his search for a higher return on capital than the 15-20 per cent then regarded as normal in much of British industry, he believed in applying pressure as well as incentives. Everyone on the staff at Black & Decker, from office boy to managing director, was assessed once every six months. Each morning at 10.30 the chairman expected to find on his desk three pieces of paper showing the sales, orders and cash that had come into the business the previous day. Communication with the shopfloor was important, but trade unions were not. "The top man in the business must make the most important decisions," he said.

Tired of international travel after some 400 foreign trips, and aware that many managers hang on for longer than they should, Appleby retired from the group board in 1972 at the age of 59, when he also relinquished the post of managing director in the UK. He remained chairman of the British operation until 1975. He admitted that anyone who wanted to change the systems he had set up would probably have to reorganise the company completely.

Outside work he applied the same energy and rigour to whatever he undertook, whether it was chess or horsemanship. When taking piano lessons, he would be up at 5am to practise. Regretting his lack of higher education, he was always an avid reader. In retirement he continued to study the theory and practice of management and organisation.

In 1936 he married Muriel Valmai Jones, who died in 1994 after many years of separation. He is survived by two daughters of that marriage, and by the son and daughter of a long partnership with Elisabeth Friederike Eidmann, who died in 1975.

DR HAROLD EDWARDS

Dr Harold Edwards, neurologist, died on December 1 aged 83. He was born on May 18, 1913.

HAROLD EDWARDS was a consultant neurologist to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, and the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital. He will be remembered for his major contribution to the training of medical students and young doctors and for the example he gave of precision in diagnosis and care for the patient.

Charles Harold Edwards was born in Manchester, the only son of Charles Alfred Edwards, FRS, a metallurgist and eventually Principal of University College Swansea. He was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, and qualified in medicine at Guy's Hospital Medical School in 1937. After a brief time in general practice he served with the Navy during the war. He became a member of the Royal College of Physicians in 1946 and was elected a Fellow in 1961.

Having first been appointed a consultant neurologist to St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, in 1954, he practised neurology for most of his life without the aid of the latest technological advances. His neurology was based on the age-old methods of detailed history-taking and clinical examination, at both of which he was a master. He taught countless students to use their powers of observation and deduction. His clinical judgment was outstanding and included an awareness of the comfort and wellbeing of the patient. At a time when super-specialisation was popular he taught an holistic approach to the practice of medicine.

It was not surprising that his ward rounds were packed with eager students, who also learnt from him the skills of communication. In the later years of his career he embraced the scientific advances and used them wisely. He was the first Director of Clinical Studies (DCS) at St Mary's Hospital Medical School, a post established to complement that of the Dean. As DCS he was responsible for overseeing the student curriculum and for the teaching and progress of all the clinical students.

He introduced progressive assessment to the medical school, which ran alongside the examination system and was an enormous help in assessing overall student performance. He realised the value of an attachment for the students to a general practice as part of their training. Although this had begun under Lord Moran many years previously, it needed revitalisation. He increased the number of general practices attached to the medical school, enabling all the students to be involved.

He also introduced an elective period into the curriculum, whereby a student could study and practise outside the medical school at any hospital or medical establishment in the United Kingdom or abroad for a period of three months. These attachments had to be self-funded, but Edwards helped to arrange scholarships when necessary. The scheme was so successful that an elective period is now part of the curriculum in most medical schools.

In 1973 Edwards became Dean of the Medical School. He knew most of the students by name and was perhaps the last pastoral dean. He admitted that he would have been unhappy with the deanship as it is today involving so much university and national politics. Entrance to the medical school was based on A-level results but Edwards believed strongly in personal interviews to assess the suitability of the candidate to study medicine.

He possessed a quick temper, not seen often but the more frightening because of this. He disliked pomposity and detected it quickly, and hated humbug of any kind.

Throughout his life he was an inveterate gardener, and his garden at his home in Hampton Court was always colourful and well looked after. He relaxed watching rugby at Twickenham and, quite often, at Cardiff Arms Park. He was a frequent visitor to Lord's for major cricket matches. He also enjoyed dining at the Garrick, of which he had been a member for many years.

When he retired from St Mary's, Edwards continued for a time in private practice and from 1979 to 1985 was coordinator of special programmes for the Wellcome Trust. Besides articles on neurology in the medical press, in 1973 he had a book on *Neurology of Ear, Nose and Throat* published. He had earlier written two other books in the same area, as well as contributing chapters to standard text-books.

He married Heather Montford in 1959 and she survives him, together with two daughters and a son.

ELAINE GRIFFITHS

Elaine Griffiths, former tutor in English and Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford, died on December 4 aged 87. She was born on June 26, 1909.

ONE of a trio of renowned Oxford English tutors which included Dorothy Bednarowska and Kirstie Morrison, Elaine Griffiths presided over a period when the English School at St Anne's became the strongest in the university. Dozens of today's writers, journalists and lecturers in English owe their careers to the training and love of learning engendered by those three.

Among Elaine Griffiths's star pupils were Libby Purves of *The Times*; Tina Brown of the *New Yorker*; the actress Maria Aitken; the journalist Gillian Reynolds; Professor Gillian Beer, President of Clare Hall, Cambridge; and Professor Jill Mann of Girton College, Cambridge.

In marked contrast to the present academic trend, in which publication is regarded as being of the utmost importance, Elaine Griffiths felt strongly that teaching the young was her prime duty as a university don. Because of this she did not advance her research projects as much as she might have done.

She was devoted to her supervisor, J. R. R. Tolkien, whom she admired as a scholar rather than as a writer of fairy tales. The admiration was evidently mutual and Tolkien regarded her as the best pupil he had ever had. Through her connections with Allen & Unwin in the 1930s the manuscript of *The Hobbit* came to the notice of the publishers.

A Roman Catholic, Elaine Griffiths was born into a family of strongly educational bent in the North of England. Her father, John Griffiths, was assistant secretary to Stoke-on-Trent education committee. She was educated at St Dominic's High School for Girls, Stoke-on-Trent. At school she was regarded as a thoughtful and highly original girl, a voracious reader with a rather independent and discriminating taste.

On entry to Oxford in 1928, she was offered an Open Scholarship by the Society of Oxford Home-Students (as St Anne's then was) but declined this in favour of the St Frideswide's Scholarship, preferred by her father. In her early career she was shy and a nervous examinee. Consequently her results — she took a second not the first that might have been expected — did not represent her true quality. This was surprising in view of the reputation she later established as an impressive tutor.

After taking her finals in 1931 Elaine Griffiths was engaged in research under Tolkien and started her teaching career by giving informal tuition to undergraduates at Cherwell Edge, a Catholic hostel attached to the Society of Home-Students. In her area of speciality, which was Old English philology, she was immediately perceived as someone with a gift for teaching. She was one of those rare people who could make the study of philosophy clear and interesting to pupils whose natural bent was literary rather than linguistic.

She worked her pupils hard but would spare no effort to help them, both academically and, where possible, privately. Her lectures were always very well attended; her aim was not only to teach but also to entertain.

Elaine Griffiths held, at one time or another, nearly every college office and she was in the forefront of its transition from the Society of Oxford Home-Students to St Anne's Society (1942) and thence to St Anne's College (1952). She became a Fellow and tutor in English in 1938 and served the Society and St Anne's College for more than 40 years. She was prominent in university affairs as chairman of the English Faculty Board and as a member of the General Board.

At a crucial period in the building-up of the college site she took over the task of furnishing the Senior Common Room and the first modern residential building. She was the scourge of architects, designers, bursars, housekeepers, scouts and others involved with the running of the college, in her pursuit of the highest standards.

She will be remembered for what she did to improve the physical surroundings of St Anne's. Today, tangible witnesses to her taste and judgment (accompanied by a canny ability to drive a shrewd bargain) are everywhere to be seen. A great upholder of civilised aesthetic values, she had an eye for antiques and gave attention to the smallest details of cost and maintenance of the college and its furnishings.

Elaine Griffiths was a great friend to many. Pupils, colleagues and guests knew her as a liberal dispenser of gin and sherry and an unparalleled adviser both on personal matters and on college traditions and standards. On college guest nights she was an excellent companion and hostess as well as a marvellous raconteur. She was particularly good at making younger colleagues feel valued.

She retired in 1976 and was made Fellow Emeritus. Elaine Griffiths is survived by her companion of 55 years, Dr Renée Jaeger.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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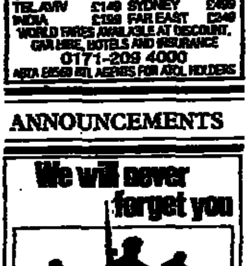

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LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
SAVE & PROSPER LINKED INVESTMENT TRUST PLC
(IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)

We, Margaret Elizabeth Mills and David John Pallen of Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU hereby given notice that on 10 December 1996 we were appointed liquidators of the above named company.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the creditors of the above company are required, on or before 17 January 1997 to send in their full names and addresses and full particulars of their debts or claims to us and, if so required by notice in writing from us, are, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated 10 December 1996
M E Mills & D J Pallen
Joint Liquidators

N.B. All known creditors have been or will be paid in full, but if any persons consider they have claims against the company they should send in full details forthwith.

OLBOTEC LIMITED

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to the Companies Act 1985 Section 175 that at an extraordinary general meeting of the above named company ("the Company") convened and held on 10th December 1996 a special resolution was passed:

1. approving a form of contract provided for the purchase by the Company of 4495 of its ordinary shares of £1 each for the aggregate sum of £90,000 and
2. authorising the payment of £90,000 of the said sum out of capital

The statutory declaration of the directors of the Company and the auditor's report required by the Companies Act 1985 Section 173(5) are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company at Hillcrest Holme Street Tarvin Cheshire.

Any creditor of the Company may at any time within the 5 weeks immediately following the 10th day of December 1996 apply to the Court under the Companies Act 1985 Section 176 for an order cancelling the resolution or for other relief.

JOAN BRADLEY
Company Secretary

NO. 005679 OF 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THRUSTGOLD LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1996

I Jeremy Hugh Berman of 76 New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 7LB hereby give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above company by the Secretary of State on 13 November 1996.

J H Berman
Liquidator

No. 005881 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF DEAN CORPORATION PLC
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 27th November 1996 confirming the reduction of share premium account of the above-named Company from £2,387,446 to £387,446 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 10th December 1996.

DATED this 12th day of December 1996
Palmer Wheeldon
Daedalus House
Station Road
Cambridge, CB1 2RE
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Ref: PRS/RP/D512005

No. 006283 of 1996
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF THE BRIGHTON MARINA COMPANY LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 4 December 1996 confirming the reduction of the Share Capital of the above-named Company from £17,200,000 to £200,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 9 December 1996.

DATED this 12th day of December 1996
Donne Mileham & Haddock
100 Queens Road
Brighton
East Sussex BN1 3YB
Solicitors for the above-named Company

N & P LIFE ASSURANCE LIMITED
ABBEY NATIONAL LIFE plc

By Interlocutor dated 4th December 1996 a Scheme under Section 49 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 to transfer the whole of the long term insurance business carried on by N&P Life Assurance Limited to Abbey National Life plc was sanctioned by the Court of Session, Edinburgh. Copies of the Order of the Court sanctioning this Scheme are available on application to the agents mentioned below.

Biggart Baillie & Gifford
Solicitors
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Tel. 0131 226 5541
(Ref: CBM/7720.1)

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The Insolvency Act 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, J. J. Schapira, ACA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 9th December 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated this 9th December 1996
J.J. Schapira, ACA, Liquidator

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FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

ON THIS DAY

December 13, 1929

Three bulletins in one day and the gathering of the Royal Family emphasised the seriousness of the King's illness, but it did not prevent the Queen from carrying out her public engagements. The King recovered to reign for another seven years.

THE KING

DRAINAGE OF THE CHEST

The following bulletin was issued by the King's doctors from Buckingham Palace last night:— "8.45p.m. — An operation on the King for the drainage of the right side of the chest has been successfully performed this evening. The condition of His Majesty is satisfactory." This was the last of three bulletins issued from the Palace yesterday. The afternoon report stated that some purulent fluid round the base of the right lung had been removed by puncture and that further drainage would be necessary. Sir Hugh Rigby, honorary surgeon to the King, afterwards visited the Palace, and the operation recorded in the evening bulletin was performed. The operation may mean progress.

[*From a leading article*]

Yesterday was a proud and affecting day for the officers and men of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets. On a gloomy and depressing afternoon the Queen left her place beside the King to unveil the War Memorial to over 12,000 of their number whose epitaph, in Her Majesty's own words, is that they "have no grave but the sea." At any ordinary time her visit to Tower Hill would have been just one more sign out of many of the unfailing interest taken by the Royal Family in everything connected with the fortunes of the Service. But coming at this particular moment it had for all who were present at the ceremony a deeper and more personal meaning. As on Tuesday the Duke of York took the place of his father and mother at the special *matinee* given in aid of the Royal National Life-boat Institution, so yesterday Queen Mary put aside the anxiety which touches her more nearly than anyone else in the Empire to do honour to the splendid body of men who night and day all through the war risked their lives in the defence of their country. She could have given no more touching proof of her gratitude for their heroic services and of her sympathy with the women and children who are left to mourn their dead. It was a gracious and queenly and womanly act.

Prince George, having expressed his desire to come home, left Bermuda yesterday in H.M.S. Durban (in which he is serving as a lieutenant) for New York in order to catch the Berengaria, which will sail on Friday for England.

The Foreign Office announces that his Majesty's representatives at Paris, Rome and Berne have been instructed to convey to the Governments to which they are accredited an expression of the Prince of Wales's warm appreciation of the invaluable assistance afforded by them to His Royal Highness in expediting his journey through France, Italy and Switzerland.

هكذا من الاصل

مكان الأصل

THE TIMES TODAY

FRIDAY DECEMBER 13 1996

NEWS

BBC bans Blair from competition

■ Tony Blair was banned by the BBC from a competition for personality of the year run by the Radio 4 *Today* programme after a secret Labour Party attempt to try to rig the result.

The BBC closed written nominations for Mr Blair at midnight on Wednesday after the discovery of an "organised attempt" to distort the result in his favour. The unprecedented action by the BBC was approved by Tony Hall, its head of news and current affairs .... **Page 1**

Prince Charles sacks 14 advisers

■ The Prince of Wales dismissed the governing council of his Institute of Architecture. The 14 members, who include architects, engineers and public figures, were called to St James's Palace and asked by the Prince to resign. He said the institute needed to take a new direction .... **Pages 1, 5**

Germany firm on EMU

Germany resisted heavy pressure from its EU partners and from France in particular over the rules of monetary union on the eve of the European summit in Dublin .... **Pages 1, 12, 18, 19**

Drugs link to suicides

Two sixth-form boys may have committed suicide after being drawn into the drugs underworld, the principal of Sir John Deane's College in Northwich, Cheshire, told parents .... **Page 1**

Airline liability

Airlines will be liable for unlimited damages for accidents in which passengers are killed or injured, under rules agreed in Brussels by European Union transport ministers .... **Page 2**

Spice Girls vote Tory

The Spice Girls, the provocative all-girl pop band, have announced that they back the Conservative Party and are "true Thatcherites" .... **Page 3**

Dome gets go-ahead

The Millennium Commission said the Millennium Exhibition under a giant dome at Greenwich would take place, but no funding has been agreed .... **Page 5**

Damages for victims

Victims of violent "copy cat" crimes should have the right to claim damages from the film or television makers, an entertainments lawyer said .... **Page 7**

Killer's right to sue

Christopher Clunis, a paranoid schizophrenic who stabbed a stranger to death, won the right to sue a health authority for failing to care for him properly in the community .... **Page 9**

Easy ride for Chirac

Critics of President Chirac's latest television broadcast said that it was a stage-managed piece of theatre conducted by hand-picked, "tame" and inexperienced young interviewers .... **Page 11**

Big spenders

American shopkeepers report a surge in "big spending" on luxury goods and a return to the free-wheeling self-indulgence of the mid-1980s which may spread to Britain .... **Page 11**

Washington in the red

Washington DC is heading for financial collapse unless the federal Government takes over responsibility for prisons, medical care and roads .... **Page 13**

Kenyan brutality

Sexual torture, rape, beatings, mob killings and corruption have become hallmarks of Kenya's judicial system over the past five years, a report says .... **Page 14**

Israel defiant

Israel promised to expand Jewish settlements in response to the murder of two settlers: Palestinians promised more attacks against settlers .... **Page 15**

Times gives frozen turkeys the bird

■ A blind tasting of turkeys organised by *The Times* found that frozen birds shrunk in roasting, showed pink staining and blisters of white coagulated protein and smelled fishy from being fed on fish meal. Jane MacQuitty, our wine correspondent, said: "If this is the national diet at Christmas no wonder people look forward to the New Year" .... **Page 8**

The Royal Navy freefall parachute team practising for the 1997 International Air Day to be held in July at RNAS Culdrose

BUSINESS

Economy: The annual inflation rate remained unchanged at 2.7 per cent during November. The underlying rate was also unchanged at 3.3 per cent .... **Page 23**

Wickes: The DIY group whose former managers are under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office is seeking to raise £53 million from shareholders .... **Page 23**

Fat cats: Utility bosses stayed away from a working breakfast to promote the success of privatisations. Only five out of 80 so-called fat cats turned up .... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 8.1 points to close at 3990.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 92.9 to 93.1 after a rise from $1.6559 to $1.6580 and from DM2.5516 to DM2.5598 .... **Page 26**

SPORT

Rugby union: Jason Leonard will captain England in the international against Argentina at Twickenham tomorrow after the withdrawal of Philip de Glanville with a thigh injury .... **Page 44**

Cricket: Michael Atherton, the captain, at last rediscovered some form with the bat in making a half-century as England worked their way into a winning position on the penultimate day of their match against Matebeleland .... **Page 44**

Rugby union: Joel Stransky, the South Africa stand-off half, signed a 2½-year contract with Leicester .... **Page 40**

Motor racing: Nigel Mansell looks likely to agree a deal with Jordan and return to Formula One racing next season .... **Page 39**

Whistle blower: Andrew Lloyd Webber's newest musical, *Whistle Down the Wind*, opens in Washington DC and Benedict Nightingale is not unimpressed, despite its relocation from northern England to Louisiana .... **Page 31**

Top of the pops: If you thought David Sinclair's choice of the year's pop album and single releases would be bound to include Alanis Morissette, think again .... **Page 32**

Art for Art's sake: Art Garfunkel talks to Paul Sexton about his new album, his old successes, his former partner and his latest hobby — walking across America .... **Page 33**

Drama debut: Emma Fortune's potentially controversial play *Giving Tongue*, part of BBC2's *Wicked Women* series .... **Page 34**

A full life: Valerie Grove interviews Lord Snowdon, who has a book out on Monday and a National Theatre exhibition in January, but still enjoys "idiot time" .... **Page 17**

McLibel, the trial: Carol Midgely on the longest trial in British legal history, which draws to a close this evening .... **Page 16**

Christmas cousins: Diana, Princess of Wales, has made cousins fashionable again .... **Page 17**

College in crisis: The continuing saga of the college that overestimated the number of students it had .... **Page 37**

Examine closely: A new report on education should be looked at carefully: what it reveals could lead to more government control of the curriculum at A level .... **Page 37**

The signing in Madrid today of the accord for the reintegration of 9,000 Guatemalan guerrillas underwrites the end of a 36-year war, the longest in Central America. The end of the cold war means the end of the civil war in the region — *ABC*, Madrid

If one wants to break the rule of never renaming great public institutions, it is not the name of François Mitterrand that should have been given to the National Library, but that of François I, who was its true founder — *Le Figaro*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The celebrity wildlife show goes east. *In the Wild: Asian Elephants with Goldie Hawn* (ITV, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond on a bathtime story .... **Page 43**

OPINION

Dangers of disdain

The protection of sovereignty is not just the hunger for power of greedy politicians; it is the *sine qua non* of healthy democracy, and of a peaceful Europe .... **Page 19**

Trimble's tactics

David Trimble has now been cast as Westminster's Warwick the Kingmaker, the man with the power to produce an earlier election and almost certain Conservative defeat .... **Page 19**

Old Tarzan's Cats

They are friends of Michael Heseltine,
But to keep feline friendships fair,
They also count on the support
Of arch catophile, nice Mr
Tony Blair .... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN

I am sure that any decent Australian, shown these papers, would be horrified. The trouble is, that these papers are *not* shown to Australians. Why should they be? After all, these papers concern only the entry to Australia for *non*-Australians .... **Page 18**

HERVE DE CHARETTE

France, having observed with interest the remarkable work of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, wants to make Europe more democratic, by giving national Parliaments a greater role alongside the European Parliament .... **Page 18**

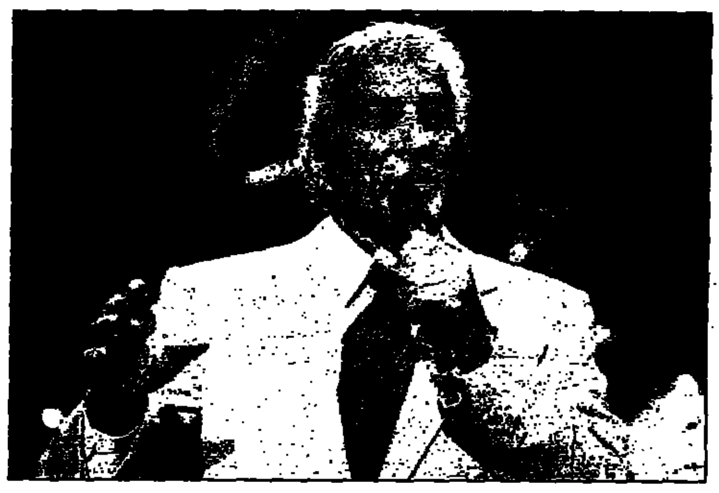
JOHN REDWOOD

It is time for the Cabinet to catch up with the united opinion in this country. Spare the veto and spoil the Union: wield the veto and unite party and country .... **Page 18**

OBITUARIES

Robert Appleby, former chairman, British subsidiary of Black & Decker; **Elaine Griffiths**, Oxford English don; **Dr Harold Edwards**, neurologist .... **Page 21**

Willetts case; Afghanistan; Royal Academy finances; fatigue syndrome; civil servants; Madeleine Albright .... **Page 19**

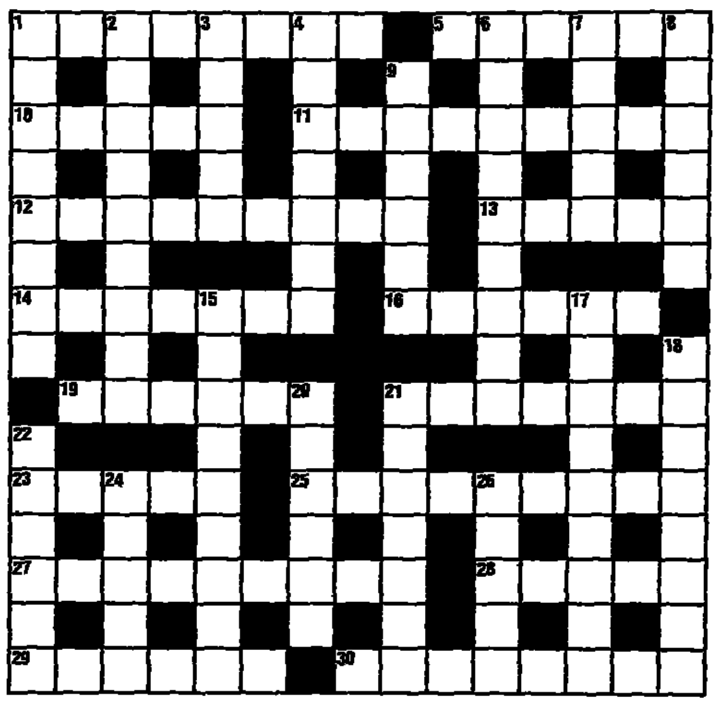


IN THE TIMES

■ **MAGAZINE**
James Bone meets Tony Bennett, a golden oldie back in style

■ **WEEKEND**
The Alpha Christian movement is growing. But are its followers being taken for a ride?

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,350



ACROSS

1 One who deserted a place of duty and then scoffed (8).
5 Source of lines originating in Wales for engine (6).
10 As a rule, waterfall can be heard (5).
11 Shared room, overcome by laughter (7,2).
12 Huge soldier taking standard round his country (9).
13 By the sound of it, undisciplined writer (5).
14 Where fighting takes place and wounds are treated (7).
16 Delay returning fee pocketed by doctor (6).
19 More impecunious middleman? (6).
21 Official making love in secluded place (7).
23 William producing much commotion after game (5).
25 Babe lured to destruction by him? (9).
27 Old airliner carrying only 50% of officers needed? Don't be daft! (4,3,2).
28 Fish gave off unpleasant odour (5).
29 Crash into second form of transport (6).
30 Cowboy who was good at maths? (8).

DOWN

1 Claim, with pride, made by 'ealth resort (8).
2 Retire one going astray in race across country (9).
3 Air-liner's ultimate component in radio control (5).
4 Young creature unfit to plead (7).
6 Kettle should bear examination (4,5).
7 Show fashion line (5).
8 Bulldog was this soldier's creature (6).
9 Ship's officer appears to sound contented about quarters (6).
15 Appraise what rustlers do (4,5).
17 Campanologist may sound familiar (4,1,4).
18 Managing director to whom money is owed (8).
20 Brush off and polish again? (6).
21 Noble joins sovereign in stern part of ship (7).
22 Summarise one switch in costs (6).
24 Bone of bird in French enclosure (5).
26 Buffalo Bill giving two pounds away to child (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,349

U	M	B	E	R		S	E	M	I	R	A	M	I	S
P		O		O		H		E		U		A		A
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R		S		I		I		T		N		F		M
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Times Two Crossword, page 44

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.58 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets 7.33 pm
Moon rises 9.58 am
First quarter December 17
London 3.52 pm to 7.59 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.09 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.37 am
Manchester 3.49 pm to 8.18 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.14 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 34.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1995

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be cloudy with rain or sleet clearing southwards, but not from the far south until evening. A slight covering of wet snow is likely, mainly over hills. Northern areas will be bright with wintry showers.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be bright or sunny with wintry showers. The showers will die out and the sunshine become more diffuse as cloudier weather with rain or drizzle spreads to north and west Scotland

☐ **London, E Anglia, Midlands, S Wales:** cloudy, rain or sleet, wet snow in places, clearing. Bright later. Wind brisk northeast. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **SE England, Central S England, SW England:** cloudy, rain or sleet, wet snow in places, clearing in evening. Wind brisk northeast. Max 5C (41F)

☐ **E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee:** bright or sunny intervals, sleet or hail showers. Winds moderate northerly. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Channel Isles:** cloudy rain or sleet. Wind fresh northeast. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** bright or sunny periods, isolated wintry showers. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** bright or sunny intervals. Showers dying out as cloud and rain spread from west.

☐ **Outlook:** changeable, the South bright or sunny for a time then cloud and rain spreading from the North

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

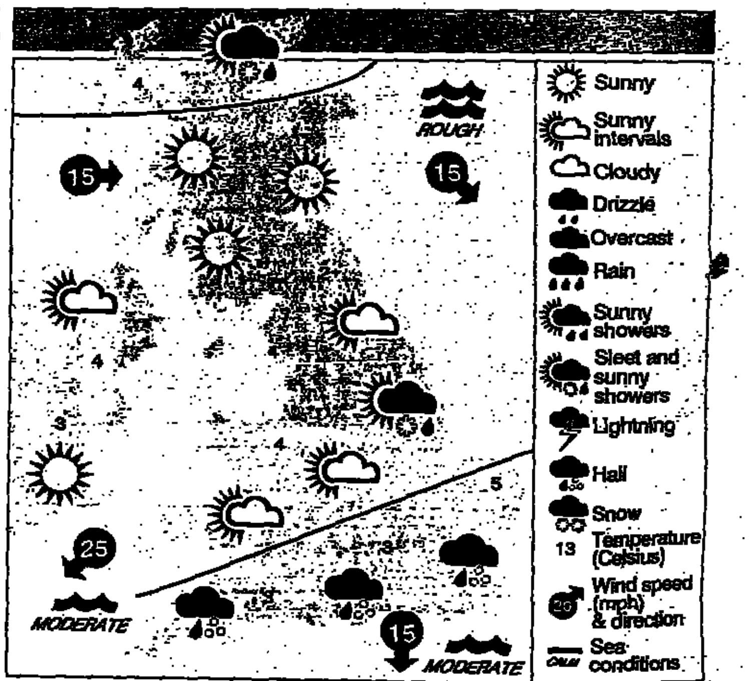
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.6	0.01	6	43	sh	Littlehmptn	-	0.01	2	36	d
Anglesey	-	-	5	41	du	London	-	0.01	5	41	d
Aspatria	0.1	0.01	5	41	r	Lowestoft	-	0.01	5	41	d
Aviemore	1.0	0.03	4	39	sn	Manchester	-	-	4	39	du
Belfast	X					Margate	-	-	3	37	du
Birmingham	-	0.01	3	37	d	Minehead	-	0.01	3	37	du
Bognor R	-	0.01	3	37	r	Morecambe	-	-	5	41	du
Bournem'th	-	0.01	3	37	d	Newcastle	0.8	0.03	5	41	r
Bristol	-	0.01	4	39	d	Newquay	-	-	7	45	c
Buxton	-	-	1	34	du	Norwich	-	0.01	4	39	du
Cardiff	-	0.01	3	37	du	Penzance	X	-	7	45	du
Clacton	-	-	2	36	c	Poole	-	0.01	4	39	du
Cromer	-	0.01	3	37	du	Prestatyn	X	-	5	41	du
Eastbourne	-	-	3	37	du	Ross-o-wye	-	0.01	3	37	du
Edinburgh	-	0.05	5	41	r	Sandown	-	0.01	3	37	d
Eskdalemuir	-	0.01	4	39	sh	Sauntn Snd	-	-	3	37	du
Falmouth	-	-	9	48	du	Scarboro'	-	0.01	5	41	du
Fishguard	-	0.01	3	37	du	Shanklin	-	0.02	3	37	d
Folkestone	-	0.01	2	36	du	Shrewsbury	-	0.01	3	37	du
Glasgow	-	0.01	6	43	d	Southport	-	-	5	41	c
Guernsey	-	-	6	43	c	Southsea	-	0.01	3	37	d
Hastings	-	0.01	3	37	d	Stornoway	3.0	0.09	5	41	h
Hayling I.	-	0.01	3	37	r	Swanage	-	0.01	4	39	d
Hove	-	-	3	37	du	Teignmouth	-	0.01	4	39	du
Hunstanton	-	0.01	4	39	d	Tenby	-	-	4	39	du
Isle of Man	-	-	6	43	du	Tiree	2.7	0.03	6	43	sh
Jersey	-	-	4	39	fg	Torquay	-	-	5	41	du
Leeds	-	0.01	5	41	c	Ventnor	-	0.01	3	37	d
Lerwick	0.5	0.51	4	39	sn	West-s-mare	-	-	5	41	du
Leuchars	-	-	5	41	c	Weymouth	-	0.01	4	39	c

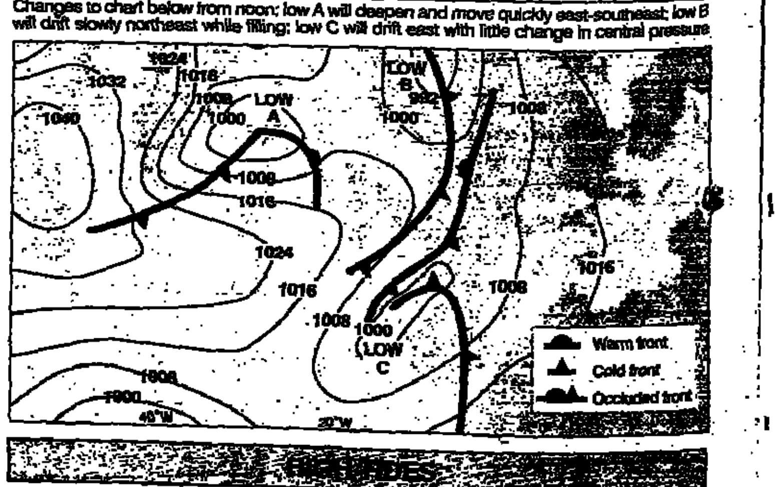
ABROAD

Ajaccio	12	54 r	Corfu	15	59 f	Majorca	16	61 f	Rome	12	54 r
Akrotiri	19	66 f	C'phagn	2	36 c	Malaga	14	57 r	S Fr'sco	X	
Alex'dria	21	70 f	Dublin	5	41 c	Malta	17	63 s	S Paulo	X	
Algiers	17	63 f	Dubrovnik	10	50 c	Melb'rne	16	61 s	Salzburg	-2	28 fg
Amst'dm	0	32 c	Faro	17	63 f	Mexico C	20	68 s	Santiago	25	77 c
Athens	10	50 r	Florence	14	57 s	Miami	24	75 s	Seoul	8	46 s
B Aires	X		Frankfurt	0	32 c	Milan	9	48 f	Sing'por	25	77 f
Bahrain	23	73 s	Funchal	15	59 sh	Montreal	-2	28 f	St'kholm	X	
Bangkok	31	88 s	Geneva	2	36 c	Moscow	1	34 c	Strasb'rg	0	32 c
Barbados	29	84 f	Gibraltar	14	57 r	Munich	-1	30 c	Sydney	23	73 s
Barcelona	11	52 f	Helsinki	-2	28 s	N Delhi	18	64 s	Tangier	13	55 c
Beirut	20	68 f	Hong K	X		N York	7	45 f	Tel Aviv	20	68 s
Belgrade	5	41 f	Innsbrck	3	37 c	Nairobi	24	75 f	Tenerife	23	73 f
Berlin	-1	30 d	Istanbul	8	46 c	Naples	17	63 f	Tokyo	14	57 s
Bermuda	18	64 f	Jeddah	29	84 s	Nice	15	59 s	Toronto	3	37 f
Biarritz	8	46 f	Jo'burg	23	73 f	Oslo	1	34 c	Tunis	17	63 f
Bord'x	10	50 f	L Angels	15	59 d	Paris	0	32 c	Valencia	11	52 f
Brussels	-1	30 c	L Palmas	23	73 s	Peking	9	48 s	Vanc'ver	5	41 c
Budapest	0	32 fg	Le Tquet	1	34 f	Perth	23	73 f	Venice	9	48 r
Cairo	18	64 c	Lisbon	14	57 f	Prague	0	32 c	Vienna	2	36 c
Cape Tn	18	64 d	Locarno	8	46 c	Reykjavik	-2	28 f	Warsaw	-2	28 d
Ch'church	X		Luxembg	-1	30 sn	Rhodes	16	61 f	Wash'ton	6	43 f
Chicago	X		Luxor	23	73 s	Rio de J	24	75 f	Wel'ngton	X	
Cologne	-2	28 sn	Madrid	9	48 f	Riyadh	21	70 f	Zurich	1	34 c

Temperatures at midday local time Wednesday. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: low A will deepen and move quickly east-southeast; low B will drift slowly northeast while filling; low C will drift east with little change in central pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3:14	7.2	3:42	7.4	Leith	4:03	5.8	4:20	5.8
Aberdeen	2:52	4.4	3:02	4.5	Liverpool	0:29	9.5	12:52	9.7
Avonmouth	8:46	13.7	9:12	13.5	Lowestoft	11:07	2.6	11:16	2.7
Belfast	0:17	3.5	12:38	3.7	Margate	1:06	4.8	1:38	4.8
Cardiff	8:38	12.0	8:58	11.8	Milford Haven	7:43	7.3	8:07	7.0
Devonport	7:22	5.6	7:47	5.4	Newquay	6:29	7.1	6:54	6.9
Dover	0:05	6.9	12:27	6.8	Oban	7:07	4.1	7:22	3.9
Dublin (N Wall)	0:48	4.2	1:04	4.3	Penzance	6:03	5.8	6:28	5.5
Falmouth	6:25	5.3	6:51	5.1	Portland	8:19	2.3	8:43	2.0
Greenock	1:51	3.5	2:12	3.8	Portsmouth	0:36	4.9	12:53	4.8
Harwich	0:59	4.1	1:24	4.2	Shoreham	0:26	6.4	12:44	6.4
Holyhead	-	-	3:05	9.0	Southampton	-	-	12:15	4.8
Hull (Albert D)	7:48	7.7	8:00	7.6	Swansea	7:55	9.7	8:18	9.5
Ilfracombe	7:27	9.8	7:51	9.4	Tees	5:14	5.4	5:27	5.5
King's Lynn	7:39	7.0	8:00	7.3	Walton-on-Naze	0:55	4.3	1:20	4.3

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Cornwall, 9C (48F); lowest day max: Buxton, Derbyshire, 1C (34F); highest rainfall: Baltasound, Shetland, 0.59in; highest sunshine: Stornoway, Western Isles, 3.0hr.

RETURN THE COUPON TO: NEW ZEALAND TOURISM BOARD, PO BOX 465, FREEPOST KT 4590, ADDLESTONE, SURREY KT15 2BR. OR SEE YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT.
NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE